

# Broadsheet

The background image is a photograph of a forest floor in spring. The ground is covered with a thick carpet of bluebells, which are small, bell-shaped flowers with a blue-purple hue. The trees are tall and slender, with light-colored bark, and their leaves are a vibrant green, indicating they are in full foliage. The lighting is soft and even, suggesting an overcast day or a shaded forest environment.

The Magazine for Broadland Tree Wardens

Issue 199 – April 2021

## Is Highway Planting a Joke?



# Broadsheet

The Monthly Magazine for  
Broadland Tree Wardens



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## This Month's Cover Picture

English bluebells in an English woodland. Is there a better sight to behold?

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# Is Highway Planting a Joke?

**DON'T** have to tell you that a significant number of the trees planted along Norwich's NDR failed to survive their first year and many more are unlikely to have a long-term future. Now, a report a report for Cambridgeshire County Council's highways and transport committee has revealed that a "large proportion" of the nearly one million trees planted as part of the A14 upgrade in Cambridgeshire have died.

The tree planting was part of the £1.5 billion roadworks scheme on the A14 between Cambridge and Huntingdon. Highways England said it removed around 400,000 trees and shrubs for the project and then replanted 866,000 trees.

The new trees were a range of native species and replaced the old trees at a rate of two to one, the agency said. However, the report for Cambridgeshire County Council's highways and transport committee said, "Whilst there have been one million trees planted as part of the scheme, a large proportion have died off." Those trees were being replanted by Highways England's contractor, the report said.

It is important to ensure that these planted areas are successful as they provide significant environmental benefits for the scheme and local area", the report went on.

Highways England was responsible for the planting and monitoring for a five-year period. The Agency has said that for every plant that has "failed" it would be planting a new indigenous species.

A spokesperson for the agency said, "We delivered the new A14 to the highest environmental standards and this included how we work when planting across our schemes. As part of any scheme, we regularly monitor how successful planting has been with an experienced and qualified ecologist.

"Some trees and shrubs flourish but others fail, which is why we carry out regular checks. We are now replacing the failed trees and shrubs and will continue to monitor the success of planting across the A14 scheme."

The highways agency said the work on the A14 operates under a "permit to clear" system, meaning any vegetation is checked by an experienced and qualified ecologist before it is removed.

I am more than aware that no planting project of any size can ever guarantee complete success, but I cannot believe that such losses experienced along the A14 and NDR can ever be acceptable.

Are highway authorities totally failing to ensure that their sub-contractors are fulfilling the terms of their contracts? Then, if they are ensuring that, do such contracts simply state that trees have to be planted rather than such planting has to be watered and cared for and given the aftercare that we, as Tree Wardens, know they require?

Of course, one has to ask who will finance replacement planting? Will it be the contractor or will it be funded from the public purse?

How can we have faith in governmental and local authority planting schemes when such failures appear to be coming common place?

The A14 "losses" of around 400,000 trees were to be compensated by the replacement planting of 866,000 indigenous species. However, two questions must be answered ...

and answered as a matter of urgency.

Firstly, will every failed tree be replaced and, secondly, how many attempts and just how long will it take?

Surely, the importance of tree planting as part of the world's fight against climate change is worth more than this. Either government and local authorities are serious about their promises regrading tree planting or not and we need to know ... now!

I am fed-up with promises and well-meaning words. They actually get us nowhere. We need action ... **AND WE NEED ACTION NOW.**

**R**EGULAR readers of Broad-sheet will be more than aware that I am totally opposed to the building of HS2 and the number of ancient woodlands being lost and damaged. I believe that its impact on our fragile environment is nothing short of catastrophic.

I am also opposed to major road building schemes because if we are serious about combatting climate change then we have to move away from our dependence on the motor car, be it petrol, diesel or electric (I believe that the mining of precious metals and the energy consumption during the manufacture of electric engines has yet to be fully appreciated).

I was therefore most interested to read on [www.dailypost.co.uk](http://www.dailypost.co.uk) that Welsh ministers have been asked to reassess a controversial £300 million road scheme through ancient woodland in Flintshire.

The Welsh Government is aiming to build a 13km, two-lane highway linking the A55 at Northop with the A494 and A550 north of Deeside Parkway Junction, but a report by the Senedd's Petitions committee concluded further traffic studies are needed to explore the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on commuter patterns now that more people are working from home.

Senned Members also suggested that the scheme's value for money should be re-considered now that estimated costs have risen 50% and could increase further. The committee wants further work done at the detailed design stage, if the scheme gets that far, to "mitigate and minimise any impacts on areas of ancient woodland".

An inquiry was launched by the committee following objections that the scheme runs counter to the Welsh Government's climate change agenda. Committee chair Janet Finch-Saunders, Conservative MS for Aberconwy, said there had been strong opinions on both sides of the debate.

She said: "What nobody could foresee at the beginning of our investigations was the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact it would have on the way we live our lives. The committee concluded it would be prudent for the Welsh Government to consider the longer-term impact

of the pandemic on work and travel patterns, before it commits to further detailed design work and a final decision on whether or not the new road should be built."

The so-called Red route, between the A548 and the A55, was the Welsh Government's preferred option for the scheme, designed to relieve congestion in the A494 Deeside corridor. This option, across farmland, will drive a new highway through ancient woodland in Leadbrook Wood.

The alternative Blue route, fiercely contested by local homeowners would have seen the A55/A494 dual carriageway widened to three lanes in each direction for six miles.

An inquiry was commissioned after a petition with 1,409 signatures was presented to the Senedd by Red route objectors in June 2019. Among its six recommendations was a request to ensure that any road scheme is part of a wider package of public transport improvements in the area, including the effective delivery of schemes such as the North Wales Metro.

Professor Tom Rippeth, speaking on behalf of the group which submitted the petition, said: "The COVID-19 pandemic is a game changer, particularly with the Welsh Government policy rightly aiming to facilitate more home working in post-COVID Wales. Our calculations show that the impact of this policy we see a bigger reduction in commuter traffic in the Deeside Corridor than the £300m Red Route is designed to achieve."

He added: "We have already seen a spiralling in costs of the scheme from £210m in 2017 to over £300m last. With all of these additional costs it is easy to imagine the final constructions being double those originally envisaged, which coupled with the Covid-related fall in commuter traffic suggests it will no longer be value for money."

The forthcoming Senedd election means that further decisions will need to be taken by a future Welsh Government.

Prof Rippeth added: "We hope that all candidates in the upcoming Senedd elections will read this report and, if elected, ensure that its recommendations are carried out."

**I CANNOT believe that anyone has failed to notice that public donations have opened to plant a new woodland in Yorkshire, to commemorate the life of the late Captain Sir Tom Moore.**

Sir Tom's family has teamed up with the Woodland Trust to plant a memorial woodland in Sir Tom's birthplace of Yorkshire. Tree Sisters has also been selected to raise money to plant trees in India in his memory.

The 'Trees for Tom' initiative is inviting public donations for both projects. Sir Tom's daughter Lucy Teixeira said the campaign reflects her father's love of the outdoors and concern about the environment.

"This gesture will honour his love of nature and the natural world," she said. "He has inspired the world in the last year, bringing hope for the future. He, like every Grandparent, saw the future of the world through his Grandchildren and he voiced his concern about what the future holds."

The 100-year-old war veteran became a national hero last year after raising more than £35m for the NHS by walking laps of his garden during lockdown. He died earlier this year after testing positive for COVID-19. A spokesperson for the Woodland Trust said it hopes to raise around £1m to fund the creation of the new

woodland. The charity has planted more than 47 million trees across the UK since it was founded in 1972.

"What a fitting way to celebrate the life of someone as inspirational as Captain Sir Tom, by creating woods and planting trees as a lasting legacy, expanding our natural heritage and safeguarding its future for our children," said the charity's CEO Darren Moorcroft. "We are hoping to raise enough money to fulfil the family's wishes of planting a memorial woodland in Yorkshire in his memory."

**I WAS delighted to read on the BBC News website that a pesticide believed to harm bees won't be used in England, after it had been approved for temporary use in January.**

Manish Pandey reported that the government had authorised the emergency use of a product containing the chemical thiamethoxam, because of a virus which affected sugar beet seeds, but that protection won't be needed now, as the colder weather means there's less risk to the crop.

Environment Secretary George Eustice said emergency authorisation was only "granted with strict conditions".

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) says to justify use of the pesticide, its predictions had to show that the virus would reach a certain level. "In the event, that pest threshold was not passed so this seed treatment will not be used this year," Mr Eustice added.

In 2018, an almost total ban was put in by the EU and UK because of the serious damage the chemical could cause to bees. Scientific studies have linked the use of these chemicals to the falling numbers of honeybees, wild bees and other animals which pollinate plants.

At the time of the ban, Michael Gove, then environment secretary, said the UK was in favour as it couldn't "afford to put our pollinator populations at risk", but according to Defra, the amount of sugar beet grown in 2020 was reduced due to the yellow virus and similar conditions in 2021 would have caused the same problems, unless it took action.

It now says some damage to the crop is still likely, but expected to be below the level at which the pesticide use is considered to be justified.

Milan Wiercx van Rhijn, from the charity Bees for Development was initially "disappointed" by the government's initial decision to allow the use of the pesticide. He's "relieved" the pesticide won't be used, but remains concerned it was even an option.

He said "Agriculture must be regenerative, and we cannot continue destroying the ecosystem on which we depend. Future generations will be shocked that we ever considered using these toxins. We see already the catastrophic decline in insects and biodiversity."

The 32-year-old explains the insects play a vital role in the food chain with around a third of the food we eat relying on pollination mainly by bees. "If we kill the insects which are the starting blocks in the chain, we'll kill the animals higher up," he adds. "It's hard to grasp how much of an impact it'll have on us."

Milan agrees it's important to protect sugar beet - but says longer-term solutions have to be the focus. "If we keep thinking about these short-term solutions and rolling back, we'll never get to the point where we don't use these products."

He suggests a greater focus on having



"strong, resilient bio-abundance" - which is letting things grow properly and "not cutting them down".

"Keep your flowers growing in the spring, as that will have food for pollinators."

The Wildlife Trusts, which threatened legal action, said it was "delighted" by the decision to not use the pesticide, but it added: "This stay of execution does not change the underlying issue - that the neonicotinoid could be allowed in the future."

**SCOTLAND is on track to meet its latest tree-planting targets and exceed goals set for the next few years, despite challenges posed by bad weather and the coronavirus pandemic.**

Annual planting targets were increased to 12,000 hectares last year and will rise to 18,000 ha in 2024/25.

Foresters, farmers and land managers are expected to have created around 13,000 ha of new woodland by the end of the current financial year, covering an area larger than 22,000 football pitches.

Despite missing last year's target, Scotland is leading the way in tree-planting across the UK with 82% of all new forests.

Planting trees helps battle climate change as well as providing jobs and income. The forestry sector supports around 25,000 jobs in Scotland and generates £1 billion for the economy each year. Scottish rural economy secretary Fergus Ewing has welcomed the work being done across the country.

He said: "This really is a remarkable achievement by all those concerned and I would like to pay tribute to everyone working in the sector - public and private - who are out there right now, working hard to deliver our planting targets."

"In a year of unprecedented adversity with Covid, Brexit and heavy, persistent snow at the beginning of this year, this is such positive news and this is not all down to the large forestry companies. We have had significant interest from smaller woodland owners, farmers and crofters who are planting almost 200 of the 320 woodland-creation schemes we are funding this year."

**I WAS appalled to read on msn news that barbed wire has been placed across trails at a popular Worcestershire beauty spot.**

The wire was found across the trails on Malvern Hills in woods near to Holywell on the east side of Jubilee Hill. Two sections of wire were placed, with one pictured several feet from the ground strung across between two tree trunks. The wire has since been removed by Malvern Hills warden and police have been alerted and are hunting the perpetrators.



Malvern Hills Trust said it 'seriously condemns this dangerous behaviour'. It issued a statement which said: "We were made aware on Monday morning (8 March) by the police that an unknown person(s) had placed barbed wire by across routes on the Malvern Hills.

"A warden attended the site and removed two sections of wire that had been placed across trails on the Hills in the woods near to Holywell. We are gravely concerned to see the wire strung across the trails, but are relieved that no one was injured by them.

"It is never acceptable for individuals to go out and place barbed wire like this across any path, route, track or trail on the hills due to the risk of causing injury or damage. Such behaviour puts anyone who comes to the hills for exercise or for recreation, including cyclists, walkers, joggers and horse riders, at risk of injury.

"The Trust seriously condemns this dangerous behaviour and asks that anyone who witnesses the erection of unofficial barriers or finds wire obstacles such as this to report them to the police and also to the Trust who will remove them."

Park user and Worcestershire community first responder, Dave Harford, said: "The Malvern Hills are where I grew up and still is my happy place. The very fact that someone is now putting barbed wire along cycle tracks to injure and hurt riders is despicable. It's shocking and makes me so said. It is an amazing place. Please call 101 if you know anything. Please share - this must stop!"

Paul Burston, who uses the trails, and posted a picture of the barbed wire on social media said: "This is an ongoing issue. Lately there have been logs put on tracks and even piles of dog poo! Not the odd poo but actual piles to put people off the trails. Riding on the hills is always a debate. Too many cyclists think they can ride at full speed on a busy Saturday afternoon. "It's a shame there's always people who spoil it."

Inspector Alex Warner from the Malvern Hills and Wychavon safer neighbourhood policing teams at West Mercia Police said: "We are working closely with Malvern Hills Trust to address this issue. "This dangerous criminal behaviour could cause serious harm and we will arrest and deal robustly with any offenders identified."

**MOVING to more positive news, a brand-new funding initiative to increase tree planting and natural regeneration in local communities was announced by the government on 12 March, with £2.7 million available this year, building the pipeline of projects for community planting in future years.**

The [Local Authority Treescapes fund](#) is aimed at establishing more trees in riverbanks, hedgerows, parklands, urban areas, beside roads and footpaths, in copses and shelterbelts, including neglected, disused and vacant community spaces. Trees in these settings are particularly valuable as they can provide the greatest levels of benefit to ecosystems and society, such as carbon absorption, flood protection and support for biodiversity, as well as connecting fragmented habitats.

The fund will help the nation build back greener from the pandemic and will target landscapes that have been neglected in the past, ecologically damaged or affected by tree diseases like ash dieback, with ash being the

most common species of tree found in non-woodland locations. Grants are available for local authorities, working together with community groups, volunteers, NGOs. Successful applicants will be informed by the end of July.

Forestry Minister Lord Goldsmith said "I am delighted to announce this new fund, which will get trees planted and land regenerated for the benefit of local communities and nature. This is an opportunity for communities to work with their local authorities to identify land, design projects and apply for funds. Trees and land restoration are central to our plans for nature recovery and to get to net zero emissions, and we know how much value people place on trees and green spaces in their local communities."

Forestry Commission Chair Sir William Worsley said "The Local Authority Treescapes Fund can play an important role in creating resilient new tree growth in our communities, particularly in areas which have lost trees to historical neglect and disease."

This year, £2.7 million will be available from the government's Nature for Climate Fund.

Applications will be open to all local authorities, via top tier authority applications. Local authorities are encouraged to work with other organisations, NGOs, community groups and private individuals to deliver the most exciting projects. Bids will be accepted from early April 2021.

The Nature for Climate fund will help us deliver the English portion of the government's manifesto commitment to increase tree planting to 30,000 hectares per year across the UK by 2025, alongside peatland restoration and nature recovery.

The announcement will support the government's tree planting ambitions and support the goals set out in the [2018 Tree Health Resilience Strategy](#).

Trees are at the heart of the government's ambitious environmental programme. The Prime Minister reiterated his commitment to plant or naturally regenerate 30,000 hectares per year by 2025, as part of his [10 Point Plan](#), and will be setting out how this will be achieved in the coming months.

**CONGRATULATIONS to the National Forest which is set to plant its nine millionth tree with the help of a Wallace and Gromit character.**

The project, which stretches across 200 sq miles (518 sq km) of the Midlands, has also been awarded £2.26m in new funding. Tree cover has been increased from 6% to 21%, bringing social, economic and environmental benefits, the National Forest Company said.

Animation star Shaun the Sheep will "plant" the tree in a virtual ceremony.

The National Forest, which runs between Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Staffordshire, was started 30 years ago to regenerate derelict land.

Dr Ian Duncan, chair of the National Forest Company, said it was a major achievement. "We are incredibly proud to be planting our nine millionth tree," he said.

Forestry Minister Zac Goldsmith, who ordinarily would have planted the tree himself, said: "At a time of such urgency for our climate and environment, this is a welcome and impressive achievement."

Aardman Animations' Shaun the Sheep, who has starred in two movies and dozens of episodes of his own show, will "plant" the nine millionth tree in a specially-made short film.

**WRITING on the i website, Madeleine Cuff reported that ministers are facing pressure from green groups and businesses to write the Government's tree planting pledge into law, as data shows planting rates are falling far short of the ambition.**

The Government has pledged to plant 30,000 ha of trees a year in the UK by 2025, levels last seen in 1989.

The goal was outlined in the Conservative party's 2019 election manifesto and the Prime Minister's Ten Point Plan for net zero. Climate experts say achieving it will be vital for getting the UK to net zero emissions by 2050.

However, progress towards hitting the target has been slow. In the year to April 2019 just 13,400 ha were planted across the UK. That increased marginally to 13,460 ha the following year, according to preliminary data from the Forestry Commission.

Green groups and businesses including Leon, Sainsbury's and Ovo have in March written to Environment Minister Zac Goldsmith calling for the target to be made legally binding, in an effort to ensure planting rates pick up over the coming years.

Kate Weinberg, sustainability director at Ovo, said a legally binding target was the only way to force government officials "focus" on the challenge. "We need to double the rate of planting, and that's just not going to come from loose targets or promises," she told i.

The letter, which was also signed by campaigners such as the Woodland Trust, warns targets not enshrined in law "lack credibility and are too often missed".

"Without supporting this commitment through binding legislation, we are concerned that the UK's opportunity to demonstrate a world leading commitment to afforestation and broader nature-based solutions ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) will fall short," the letter reads.

It calls for the targets to be written into the Environment Bill and the upcoming England Tree Strategy, to be released this Spring.

Just 13% of the UK is forested, compared to an EU average of 38%. England could triple its tree cover without encroaching on other valuable habitats such as peat bogs, according to analysis of official data by Friends of the Earth.

A UK Government spokesperson said: "Tree planting remains at the heart of our ambitious environmental programme, which is why we have committed to increase tree planting across the UK to 30,000 ha per year by 2025.

"We have already announced the Nature for Climate Fund which will help us meet this ambitious target and are exploring the option of a long-term legally-binding target for England."

**FINALLY for this month, may I please remind you that the May edition of Broadsheet, the next issue, will be our 200<sup>th</sup>.**

Obviously, I would like to make it a special celebratory edition, so I would like to ask you all, especially you "older hands" to e-mail to me (as soon as possible) your comments and recollections of our monthly magazine over the years. Indeed, anything you feel appropriate.

I look forward to seeing you all in the next century!!

All the best

John Fleetwood

# Government has no Climate Change Plan - MPs

*By Roger Harrabin, BBC Environment Analyst*

**T**HE government has been hit by a double whammy of reports from MPs criticising its performance on climate change. The influential Public Accounts Committee (PAC) says ministers have "no plan" to meet climate change targets, two years after setting them in law and the business committee says the vital UN climate conference scheduled for Glasgow in November will fail unless its goals are made clear. The government says both reports are inaccurate and unfair.

The PAC's report says ministers still don't have a co-ordinated strategy to realise the goal of removing almost all the carbon emissions from Britain by 2050.

The report notes that the government intends to publish what the MPs call a "plethora" of strategies setting out how it will reduce emissions in sectors ranging from transport to heating buildings, but, it says, the policies aren't agreed yet.

The MPs say the Treasury has changed its guidance to ensure departments place greater emphasis on the environmental impacts of their policies, but hasn't explained how this will work in practice.

What's more, the MPs say, the government is not yet ensuring that its activities to reduce emissions in Britain are not simply transferring those emissions overseas where so many of the carbon-intensive goods bought in Britain's shops are made. They also blame the government for failing to engage with the public.

Meg Hillier, the committee's Labour chairwoman, said: "The government has set itself a huge test in committing the UK to a net zero economy by 2050, but there is little sign that it understands how to get there.

"We must see a clear path plotted, with interim goals set and reached. It will not do to dump our emissions on poorer countries to hit UK targets. Our new international trade deals, the levelling up agenda, all must fit in the plan to reach net zero.

"COP26 (the vital climate conference in Glasgow in November) is a few months away. The eyes of the world, its scientists and policymakers are on the UK. Big promises full of fine words won't stand up."

Meanwhile, the business committee says the government has provided no details so far about how success at the conference will be measured. Their report urges the prime minister to set out a clear list of ambitions for the summit, with a set of accompanying measures of success.

However, the committee says "We have concluded the current 'themes'-based approach is too broad, without clear measures for success. "More focus needs to be given to the overriding necessity to agree deliverable policies that keep global temperature rises to as close to 1.5°C as possible."

A COP26 spokesperson said the



government was making "good progress" but added "there is no time to waste".

"The COP26 President, Alok Sharma, our teams and the full weight of our diplomatic network are all working tirelessly to push for accelerated action from our partners around the world" the spokesperson added.

Nick Mabey, from the think tank e3g, argues that multiple potential goals must be achieved - and he believes those goals should be debated publicly. The aims would include:

- Strengthening nations' long-term commitments to cut emissions
- Measuring whether governments' policies match up to their promises
- No new coal power built.
- Major public banks withdrawing from fossil fuel investment
- Ending export finance for coal power stations
- Greatly increasing cash for poorer nations to adapt to inevitable global heating.

He told BBC News "This debate is up for grabs. It should be a public debate because we're talking out how to change whole economies. A lot of the outcomes from Glasgow will be decided in the court of public opinion."

Richard Black from the Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit (ECIU) said: "The lack of clarity on the vision for COP26 is seriously concerning. It is surely obvious that COP26 has to set the global economy on track to net zero emissions by mid-century.

"This means brokering agreements that kick-start decarbonisation in various sectors and it also means Boris Johnson, Dominic Raab and Rishi Sunak stepping up to the plate on finance to help the poorest nations. Failure to sort this will fatally compromise COP26 - and the failure will lie squarely at the door of Downing St."

Whatever global goals are eventually agreed, green groups warn the UK's negotiating position will be weakened unless it consistently cuts carbon domestically - it's currently slipping away from its long-term targets.

Mr Black added "Coming on the back of a Budget that didn't even try to get the Conservatives on track to their net zero target, the conclusion that they don't have a plan for reaching it, just months before the UK hosts a major UN climate summit for the first time, should stimulate some serious thinking right across Whitehall."

A government spokeswoman said: "It is nonsense to say the government does not have a plan when we have been leading the world in tackling climate change, cutting emissions by almost 44% since 1990 and doing so faster than any other developed nation in recent years.

"Only this week in the Budget we built on the prime minister's Ten Point Plan for a green industrial revolution by encouraging private investment in green growth, and we are bringing forward bold proposals to cut emissions and create new jobs and industries across the whole country."

# UK Environmental Protections 'Being Flouted'

*By Roger Harrabin, BBC Environment Analyst*

**C**AMPAIGNERS have accused the government of hypocrisy for setting out environmental protection principles while simultaneously flouting them. UK ministers have just published long-awaited principles that will inform government decision-making. They say they intend to put the environment at the heart of their policy, but the document exempts the Treasury and the Ministry of Defence from being bound by the principles.

Furthermore, environmentalists complain that the principles are meaningless anyway, because the government presses on with activities that will harm the planet – such as the planned Cumbria coal mine and a £27bn road building programme.

The principles have been laid out in a consultation document linked to the Environment Bill. Following Brexit, these principles will replace those agreed by the EU.

Environment Secretary George Eustice said: "We want to embed the environment in the design, development and delivery of the government's work. Our environmental principles are essential, and will ensure that ministers across Whitehall are guided to not just protect the environment, but tackle problems at their origin."

He said the legally-binding statement would introduce key environmental propositions. These include:

- The **integration principle** - policy-makers should look for opportunities to embed environmental protection in other fields of policy that have impacts on the environment - say transport or business, for instance
- The **prevention principle** - policy should aim to prevent or, reduce harm
- The **polluter pays principle** - those who cause damage should be responsible for mitigation or compensation
- The **precautionary principle** - caution is

exercised where there is potential for serious or irreversible environmental damage, but also a lack of scientific certainty over the matter

Crispin Truman from CPRE, the countryside charity, said: "We welcome this, but it's what happens on the ground that really matters. We need hard targets and legally binding commitments to address the nature and climate emergencies.

"The UK government's current planning and transport policies will also need a major overhaul. It's also astonishing to see the government champion these principles while giving the green light to a new coal mine in Cumbria."

The CPRE said that what they called the mismatch between green principles and actual policies was an example of "glaring hypocrisy".

Ben Halfpenny, from the Greener UK coalition of green groups, targeted his criticism at the wording of the 20-page statement. He spelled out detailed textual differences between how the proposed UK government principles, compared with their EU precursors.

He noted that the document contains 19 references to the word "proportionately" and also raises the idea that measures should be "cost effective", which allows plenty of wriggle-room.

"Whereas the old approach would ensure big decisions considered issues related to the principles and applied them proportionately to protect the environment, the new approach seeks to make environmental issues proportionate to other factors, such as economic considerations, in the making of the decision," he said.

"This is likely to relegate the importance of the environment in big decisions and ongoing work."

Mr Halfpenny continued: "The old approach made sure principles directly applied to government ministers and public authorities. The new approach only requires certain ministers to consider the principles, with key carve-outs for the Treasury and Defence.

"These departments are not excluded from the Climate Change Act commitments so we query why they should escape environmental responsibilities."

Kierra Box, from Friends of the Earth, said: "It's totally inconsistent for the government to be building roads or airports - or digging mines - if it was really taking these environmental principles seriously."

Campaigners generally think the new document offers less protection to the environment than what was there previously.

Ms Box told BBC News: "We can understand why the MoD should be exempted from the principles at a time of war. But if they are storing depleted uranium shells on British land, then surely the principles should apply."

She's also worried - and puzzled - about the exemption for the Treasury.

"The Treasury often takes decisions with a complex interplay between differing impacts. But the idea of excluding the Treasury from these principles seems bizarre - especially against a background of 'green growth' promises."

The BBC has approached the government for comment.

## Welcome New Tree Wardens

The article about our Network that was published in Broadland News continues to reap rewards and I am delighted to confirm the addition of two new Tree Wardens during March with another likely to confirm their registration in the coming days, bringing our number to 41 covering 26 of Broadland's 64 parishes. The best coverage Broadland has ever enjoyed.

Those that confirmed their registrations during March and underwent their inaugural training via Microsoft Teams are David Brown and Andrew Baker.

David joins Andrea Rowlands and I at Freethorpe while Andrew will join Joy Ramsey in Drayton. Both are very enthusiastic and I am sure will prove to be assets to our rapidly growing Network, not to mention their respective parishes.

I know that you will all join me in welcoming David and Andrew and wishing them every success for the future. We all hope that you will both enjoy Tree Wardening as much as we do.



# Green Brexit Didn't Happen

*By Roger Harrabin, BBC Environment Analyst*

**T**HE so-called “green Brexit” promised by the government has not been delivered, a coalition of environment groups says. In 2017, the Environment Secretary Michael Gove promised: “Leaving the EU gives a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reform agriculture and fisheries.” That, he said, would allow the UK to reshape the way it cares for its land, its rivers and its seas. “In short,” Mr Gove pledged, “it means a Green Brexit.”

Over four years and 11 reports, an environmental coalition called Greener UK has tracked policies and concluded that improvement across the board has not been realised.

Environment Secretary George Eustice said Brexit enabled the UK to create “world-leading legislation, delivering better environmental outcomes in an effective and efficient way”.

The group says protections for climate, farming, fisheries and water quality are similar to 2016; but for chemicals, nature, air quality and waste are weaker. The coalition, which includes The Wildlife Trusts, RSPB and ClientEarth, says:

- New institutions, including the post-Brexit watchdog the Office for Environmental Protection, will be weaker than those they are replacing.
- Crucial environmental principles are being watered down.
- There’s been a lack of co-ordination with the EU on mutually beneficial issues, from carbon pricing to wildlife protection.
- The UK has left the EU’s gold standard chemical regulation system and created a domestic version with fewer staff, less funding and restricted access to existing data.

The groups agree there are positive developments, especially the scrapping of the



EU’s controversial Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) which used to pay farmers grants depending on how much land they farm.

The report says the UK’s own new farm subsidy regime offers a good opportunity to restore wildlife.

Similarly, while the UK Fisheries Bill does not prevent overfishing, there are potential improvements in sustainability and monitoring, it adds.

Craig Bennett, from The Wildlife Trusts, said: “We were solemnly promised that the UK would maintain and enhance our environmental standards after Brexit.

“Although that might have happened in some areas, massive gaps have opened up as a result of this process – and enforcement is weaker across the board.

“To take a few of many examples, it is a disgrace that many of our offshore Marine Protected Areas are still being damaged through trawling and dredging, and that our

rivers are still routinely polluted. The interests of big businesses prevail.”

Beccy Speight, from the RSPB, said: “What we were promised was a Green Brexit with protections at least as strong if not stronger than those that applied before Brexit - what we have seen so far suggests a legacy of weakening many of the policies, regulations and legislation.”

Sarah Williams of Greener UK said: “There is still time for the government to make its plans stronger, particularly for chemicals and air pollution, and follow through on promising proposals for farming. We really hope it does so.”

Environment Secretary George Eustice told BBC News the government was determined to create the most ambitious environmental programme of any country on Earth. “Now more than ever, it’s vital that we protect our precious natural environment,” he said.

“That’s why we are working hard - rewarding farmers for managing their land in a way which preserves it for future generations, championing sustainable fishing and setting legally binding targets to help restore nature and biodiversity.

“Our exit from the EU enables the UK to set our own world-leading legislation, delivering better environmental outcomes in an effective and efficient way and in line with our own regulatory systems - ensuring we protect and improve our precious environment for future generations.”

## Mountain Bikers Damage Woodland

**A** dog walker has been left in dismay at the damage to Soapwell Wood on Teesside. The New Marske Woodland, managed by the Woodland Trust, has suffered months of vandalism by a select number of mountain bikers. Thornaby resident, Steven Wheatley, has been put off walking his dog there due to the destruction and lack of respect shown to the once beautiful woodland.

“I’m not saying I want mountain bikes banned, most are perfectly respectful to the woods, but a small minority just don’t realise the importance.

“The response I got from one was ‘it’s only mud, I don’t care’, and what can you even say to those kinds of people? It’s getting to the point where it won’t be repairable,” Steven said.

The wood includes a Scheduled Ancient Monument from the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze

age, situated at its peak, which has been carelessly transformed into a muddy mess with no respect for the prehistoric barrow.

The monument in the north-east corner of the wood is protected during forestry operations to ensure its preservation, however this hasn’t stopped mountain bikers using it inappropriately.

“From what I know, the burial monument has spent 2,000 to 3,000 years undisturbed, it’s gone from a smooth rounded hill to an ‘M’ shape where they’ve used it as a launch pad. As long as they stick to the bridleway and established

paths it wouldn’t be an issue,” Steven said.

His partner lives in New Marske, and he began walking in the area roughly three years ago, enjoying the woodland with his staffy-cross, Dexter.

“I am beginning to avoid this part of the wood on my dog walks as I find the lack of protection frustrating and quite upsetting.

“This once beautiful spot is now close to being nothing more than a muddy mess strewn with litter and I find it extremely concerning that it would be left to continue its decline.

“Over the course of the previous year,

especially through lockdown periods, tracks and trails have been carved into the woodland by what I believe to be a small number of mountain bikers using various tools including picks and spades.

"I have witnessed this first hand and managed to take a small amount of video evidence which has been forwarded on to the police," Steven said.

Furthermore, the damage and vandalism sadly hasn't stopped there. In the adjoining Errington Woods, managed by Redcar and Cleveland Council, destruction has been caused and the same issue remains.

"I know the Woodland Trust in the area is aware of this issue as signs have been placed stating the importance of Soapwell Wood as a Scheduled Ancient Monument and that mountain biking in the area is not allowed and the building of tracks is a criminal offence.

"Sadly however, these signs are not only ignored, they simply ripped down and discarded into the undergrowth," Steven said.

Steven, who used to work in the hotel

industry and now works in retail, has spotted mountain bikers aged between mid-twenties to early thirties in the area, and although the majority are respectful, a select few have damaged the woodland to almost beyond repair.

"The signs seemed to go as soon as the damage seemed to be done. "Myself and others from the area tried to repair them.

"It's really disheartening, it's gone from such a lovely corner of the area, the woods are amazing, but sadly it's going to rack and ruin quite quickly.

"I have no issue with mountain bikers having access to what is beautiful woodland rich in wildlife but what I do take exception to is them being vandalised by an irresponsible minority.

"The damage caused is already extensive and I am sincerely hoping something can be done before it is beyond repair," Steven said.

Woodland Trust site manager at Soapwell Wood, Nick Swinburn said: "In the last year Soapwell Wood has seen a huge increase in damage from mountain biking.

"Whilst it's a wonderful place to visit, its

delicate ecosystems and the ancient Bronze burial mound are just not suitable for this sort of use – the tracks are riding roughshod over this historic site.

"We have sought advice from Historic England as to how best protect the site and their recommendation is to report incidents to Cleveland Police as a "heritage crime".

"We have considered fencing and put signage up but it quickly gets vandalised.

"The wood also suffered an arson attack around Easter 2019 which resulted in the damage of over one hectare of trees.

"The area has now been replanted with native broadleaf species, once the planted trees and scrub layer become established this should limit the mountain bike tracks however it will be a number of years before this is the case.

"A local volunteer group also operates on site and they help with litter clearance, general maintenance and generally providing an on-site presence. "Their activities have been limited by COVID-19. However it is hoped that group activity will resume later this summer."

# Experience: I'm a Tree Hugger

*An article by David Knott published on [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com)*

**W**HEN I was very small, my grandfather used to wheel me in a pram through the local park on the way to the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. Looking up at the trees helped me get to sleep. So maybe I've always been on a wooden wavelength. I've spent all my adult life working with trees, and the past 14 years working at the RBGE as a curator. Recently, our fundraising team was looking for novel suggestions to raise money to help save the giant redwood avenue at our site in Benmore. Some of the staff suggested I do a sponsored tree huggathon.

They knew I'd been a tree hugger since a very early age. When I was small, it was enough to be hugging a birch tree or something pretty tiny that I could reach around with my wee arms. As I grew up, the trees I hugged grew bigger, too.

Still, I wasn't sure people would be interested enough in an old man hugging trees to donate money, but my colleagues thought it was inspired. So I agreed to hug 350 trees, of as many different varieties as I could find, in a year.

My approach to the challenge was improvised. I wouldn't plan what to hug. It was just cometh the hour, cometh the tree. Weather was not a factor. In the winter months there were some fantastic trees to hug: paperbark maples, Tibetan cherries with glossy sheens, dogwoods with their signature, fiery red bark.

Hugging trees in the snow is especially enriching: you're acutely aware of the life coursing through them, a sense of them withstanding the elements. In summer, I'd find a scenic spot and lock my arms around one, with the sun streaming through the branches and backlighting the bark.

My tree hugging technique is based on a simple principle: making maximum contact. This means wrapping my arms as far round as they'll go (sometimes a stern stretch for a man my



age), and then leaning into the tree. To fit the challenge in every day, I had to give up some meetings, but that was a welcome development.

Whenever I got the itch, I'd head out with my colleague, a photographer. It was practically a tree-hugging fashion shoot, with us going on a trek in search of the next tree that spoke to us. At points my colleague, who usually takes serious scientific photographs, struggled to keep a straight face, and I couldn't help feeling self-conscious, but I just got on with it.

I was struck by how different the experience was with each tree. The most tactile ones stood out, particularly the small giant redwoods. That was in June, when we'd had weeks and weeks of dry weather. You were getting an almost Californian scent from the resin. That transported me. Another highlight was a hybrid wingnut. If you're familiar with Lord of The Rings, it looks a bit like an Ent, the talking tree of Middle-earth,

because of its craggy features, which are like faces in the bark.

Admittedly, there were a few raised eyebrows from passers-by. Some people had a quiet chuckle; maybe they thought it was a quaint Scottish custom. I was the butt of a fair few tree jokes among my family, regularly being called barking mad, but everyone understood it was for a good cause.

If you've never hugged a tree, I strongly recommend it. Getting up close to one makes you appreciate their fantastic structure. If you were to set humans a challenge to create such a wonderful mechanism, they would never be capable of doing it.

My dream tree trip is going to California to see the giant redwoods. I wouldn't be able to hug those, I would just stand back and marvel at them. Closer to home, however hilarious my hugging seemed, I'm delighted that we managed to raise more than double the original target to help save our own resplendent redwoods, which were planted in 1863 by a wealthy American.

Tree hugging is a wonderful way of reconnecting with nature on a deep level. That's something I think we all need more of, with the frenetic pace of modern life. Tree hugging can help us slow down; to appreciate the wee things in life. Above all, trees can teach us patience. Their lifespans are longer than ours, so they help us to connect with a different sense of



# Interactive Map Shows National Trust Areas at Risk of Climate Change

**A** NEW interactive map produced by the National Trust, which looks after lots of the UK's sites of natural and historical interest, shows that many of its popular locations could be under threat from climate change. The map illustrates the potential risks that may be caused by issues like coastal erosion, extreme heat and flooding and shows the number of National Trust sites under threat may increase over the next 40 years.

However, the map shows the worst-case scenario, which means it demonstrates what could happen if nothing was done to drive down global carbon emissions.

The Trust warns the number of its sites facing a high level of threat from issues such as coastal erosion, extreme heat and flooding could rise from 5 to 17% over the next 40 years. Many initiatives are being put in place to stop the worst happening, including tree plant-in and

saving more peat bogs to prevent flooding.

The charity says that these maps are a "game-changer" because they show the areas that require more attention from conservation projects.

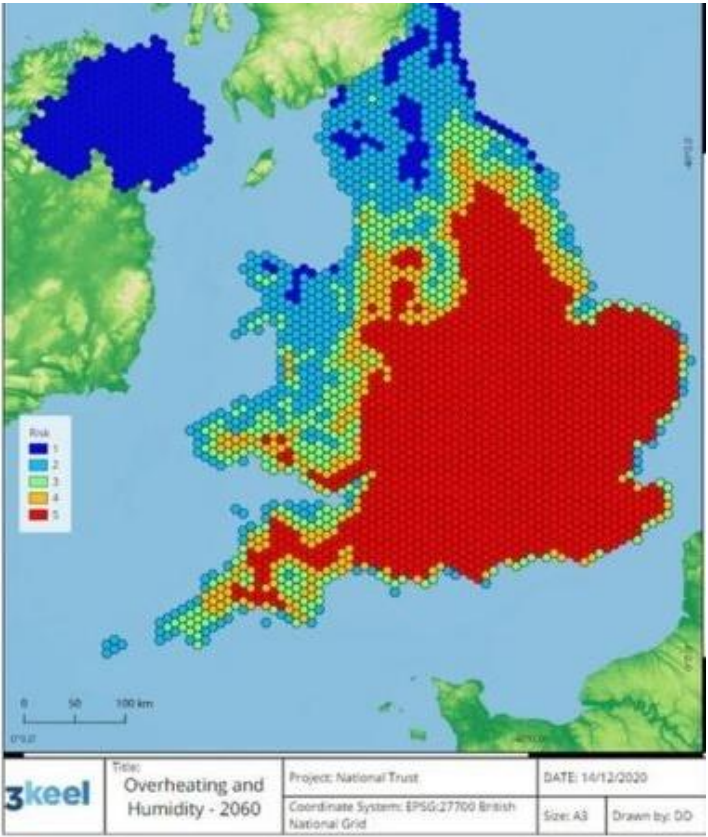
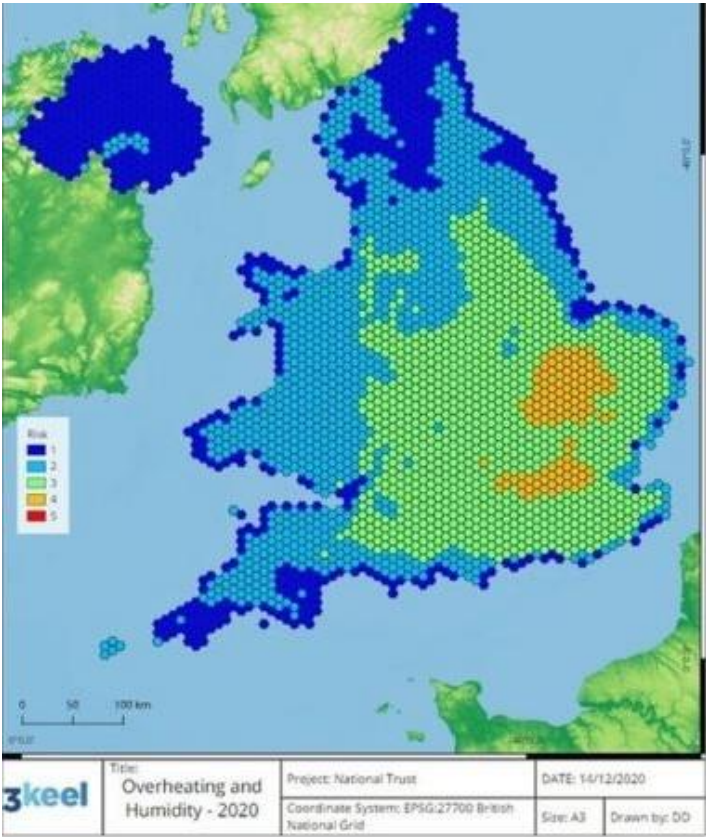
The National Trust director for land and nature Harry Bowell said that "by acting now, and working with nature, we can adapt to many of these risks" and staff are already acting upon areas that are experiencing problems.

For example, at Ham House in London, more hardy plants that are used to hot conditions are being planted. They will provide

more shade in areas that the map shows could reach up to 40°C by 2040. Meanwhile trees are being planted at Lyme Park in Cheshire after areas were hit by flooding in 2019.

In County Down in Northern Ireland, a car park for Mount Stewart, a stately home, has been moved away from the coastline as erosion and rising sea levels were causing issues.

The charity wants to plant 20 million trees before 2030, and said the map will ensure trees are planted where they are needed most.



**U**NFORTUNATELY, The National Trust is in the firing line for felling 50 ash trees in a historic woodland in north Norfolk.

The trust, which owns the Buller Grove site near Thursford, said the 100-year-old trees had to be cut down because of ash dieback, a disease which is expected to wipe out most of the UK's ash trees over the next three decades.

Aidan Collins, from East Rudham, who has been visiting the woods for years, said that while some of the ash trees showed signs of dieback, others seemed perfectly healthy. He said: "It seems like it would be okay if there was a dangerous tree near a path, but they have cut

down every single ash tree there. The woods are a tragic sight now, it's truly heart-breaking."

However, a trust spokesperson said that as well as ash dieback, the trees had been damaged in a storm in autumn last year. The spokesman said: "We only fell or remove trees of this type that pose a direct risk to public health and safety. Those that don't we leave to decay and decompose to act as natural homes for wildlife."

"The team has also been thinning a number of beech trees to allow light into the understory, promoting the floral diversity that already exists there, such as bluebells. The bluebells and other ground flora will recover and in the long term be much more vigorous leading to a more

diverse and beautiful wood."

The spokesman said some of the wood would be sold but "a lot of it" would be left as deadwood, to provide nutrients and shelter for woodland species, but Mr Collins said it would have been better for the environment if all of the ash had been left there to rot on the ground.

He said: "There will be no ash left to monitor progression in resistance to ash dieback. Why take timber away if it's disease management?"

Mr Collins said he also objected to the use of large machines to cut down the trees, as they had caused some extra damage, and described the felling as "insensitive management" because of the size and type of woodland.

# Brazil Must do More to Protect its People, Forests and the Planet

*An article by Steve Trent published on the Mongabay website.*

**D**ESPITE growing international awareness of the importance of protecting and restoring our vital ecosystems, President Bolsonaro's far-right government has taken a wrecking ball to much of the environmental progress made by the country over the last decade. Brazil's updated national climate commitment dramatically weakens its emissions cuts and strips out any reference to land use change. This means that Brazil now has a "highly insufficient" target, at a time when most nations are gearing up for the more ambitious commitments needed to have any hope of tackling the climate crisis.

The destruction of Brazil's globally important environment is now sufficiently serious to prevent its accession to the OECD. Bolsonaro is single-handedly driving Brazil off an economic and reputational cliff, with opposition to his administration's reckless destruction of the Amazon now strongly opposed by the public in Brazil and overseas.

Ever-increasing global meat consumption has cemented Brazil as the world's largest exporter of beef and soy by weight. This trade has come at a devastating cost to the country's forests, where both legal and illegal deforestation for agriculture is surging. At least 17% of the beef and 20% of the soy exported to the EU may be linked to illegal deforestation, estimates say. From the Amazon to the Cerrado, priceless biomes are being destroyed.

Large scale soy cultivation not only destroys valuable biodiversity, but is also responsible for an epidemic of pesticide poisonings. One person from Minas Gerais described their harrowing experience of living close to a soy plantation: 'down came the rain of poison, and we had nowhere to run. I couldn't breathe and almost suffocated to death.'

Illegal gold mining operations have also increased rapidly since Bolsonaro was elected in 2018. An estimated 20,000 miners have illegally invaded Brazil's largest Indigenous territory, the Yanomami reserve. What's worse is that the president is actively promoting these destructive practices, having presented draft legislation in February to legalize commercial mining on protected Indigenous land.

Experts suggest that there is another insidious threat to the people and ecosystems of Latin America – road building. One of the most serious problems is that new roads are providing access to previously untouched, unreachable regions, enabling activities such as mining, logging and hunting to thrive: approximately



95% of deforestation occurs within 5.5km of a road.

While the threats facing Brazil's Indigenous people and ecosystems are severe, they are not insurmountable.

Stopping the roll-back of environmental commitments, re-establishing the strength of the Forest Code, and committing to a new climate target under the Paris Agreement which includes ambitious emissions reductions, as well as explicit goals on ending deforestation and encouraging the restoration of forest biomes, are all necessary steps.

However, we must be realistic about where the drive for change will come from and it is not likely to arrive from a planet-destroying far-right government.

As an international community, we share a responsibility to pressure the Brazilian government to better protect its people and the planet. Indigenous groups should be granted greater rights to land tenure. This would not only improve the wellbeing and security of Brazil's

people, but also its forests, savannas and wetlands that have been sustainably managed by Indigenous communities for thousands of years.

The European Parliament took an important step in the right direction by adopting a report calling on the European Commission to develop a robust, legally binding framework to stop deforestation in the EU supply chain. It is now vital that the Commission works rapidly toward a robust new regulation that has the scope and the teeth to protect forests and forest peoples around the world. We urge other governments to follow this lead.

*Steve Trent has over 30 years of experience in environmental and human rights campaigning, and has led campaigns in over 40 countries. He is the Executive Director and co-founder of the Environmental Justice Foundation.*



# Five Facts You Might Not Know About Why Forest Biodiversity Matters

*This article is brought to you thanks to the collaboration of The European Sting with the World Economic Forum. Author: Sean Fleming, Senior Writer, Formative Content*

**T**HE Earth's forests are some of the richest and most biodiverse habitats we have. Not only do they serve as important carbon sinks, but up to 350 million people living in or near them rely on their ecosystems for a range of basic needs, from food and shelter, to energy and medicine.

3 March was World Wildlife Day and this year's theme was **Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet**. The theme was focused on forest biodiversity, a forest's many life forms and ecological roles. The observance this year is a reminder of the critical impact forests have in our lives.

With that in mind, here are five facts about the roles forests play in sustaining the health of people and the planet.

## 1. Primary forest is still disappearing

Globally, a UK-sized area of tropical forest was lost every year between 2014 and 2018, on average, according to a report from the New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF). And data from Global Forest Watch suggests that we lost a football pitch of primary rainforest every 6 seconds in 2019. The same data showed that primary forest loss was 2.8% higher in 2019 than in 2018, and has remained high for the last two decades.

## 2. Soil is key to healthy forests and a healthy planet

Just one teaspoon of healthy soil is home to more living organisms than there are people on the planet. These microscopic organisms are the building blocks that enable the vast trees and everything else within forest ecosystems to thrive. Without healthy soil, life would struggle.

There is also more carbon in forest soils in Great Britain than in the trees themselves, so if we look after the soil, the soil will help to look after the forests. In this way, forests can be an important tool in reducing atmospheric carbon and a route to mitigating climate change. How does the World Economic Forum encourage biological diversity?

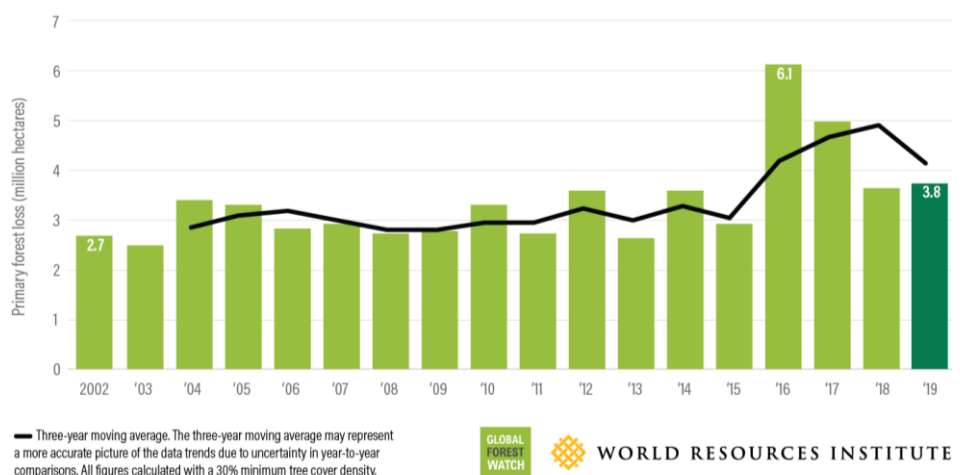
So how does the World Economic Forum encourage biological diversity? Well, in the last 100 years, more than 90% of crop varieties have disappeared from farmers' fields and all of the world's 17 main fishing grounds are now being fished at or above their sustainable limits.

These trends have reduced diversity in our diets, which is directly linked to diseases or health risk factors, such as diabetes, obesity and malnutrition.

One initiative which is bringing a renewed focus on biological diversity is the Tropical Forest Alliance. This global public-private partnership is working on removing deforestation from four global commodity supply chains – palm oil, beef, soy and pulp and paper.

The Alliance includes businesses,

Tropical Primary Forest Loss, 2002-2019



governments, civil society, indigenous people and communities, and international organizations.

## 3. The green desert effect and forest complexity

Forest ecosystems are diverse and complex. Simply planting trees won't automatically create healthy forest biomes. In fact, new forests can become green deserts, with low levels of biodiversity, according to a 2010 study by two US academics. Those experts found that planting trees on degraded lands is likely to have a greater positive effect on biodiversity, especially if indigenous tree species are used. In existing forests, grasslands, and shrublands, such benefits are likely to be less pronounced.

## 4. Growing emissions problems

Global annual tropical tree losses between 2014 and 2018 have been responsible for 4.7 gigatons CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year, according to the NYDF report. That equates to more than all the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the European Union's member states in 2017.

However, it's not just tropical forest that should capture our attention. Mangroves and peatlands are also being lost as land is given over to farming. Together with agriculture's effects on tropical forest areas, this destruction is contributing around 13% of total human CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and is exacerbating the effects of climate change, according to the World Economic Forum's Nature Risk Rising: Why the Crisis Engulfing Nature Matters for Business and the Economy report.

## 5. Nature's medicine cabinet

There are currently 107 Amazonian species endangered by the ongoing loss of biodiversity. That includes several that are important to the pharmaceutical industry, such as the cinchona tree, the source of the malaria drug quinine. At the heart of a substantial number of key advances in drug therapies lies a continued reliance on the natural world. This can be seen in the field of cancer treatment in particular, where 75% of approved anti-tumour pharmaceuticals are non-synthetic. More precisely, almost half (48.6%) are either natural products or were directly derived from natural sources.

**O**N World Wildlife Day, United Nations Secretary General António Guterres called on people and governments everywhere to step up efforts to protect forests and support forest communities, under increasing threat from unsustainable use of forest resources and wildlife trafficking.

In a commemorative message he said "In doing so, we will contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for people, planet and prosperity".

Guterres highlighted the benefits of forests, home to about 80% of all terrestrial wild species. "They help regulate the climate and support the

livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people", he said.

In addition, forests resources support, in one way or another, about 90% of the world's poorest people, a fact especially true for indigenous communities that live in or near them. "They provide livelihoods and cultural identity", the UN chief continued.

However, unsustainable exploitation of forests harms these communities and contributes to biodiversity loss and climate disruption, he added.

Every year, the world loses about 4.7 million hectares of forests, an area larger than Denmark, due to unsustainable agriculture, timber trafficking, organized crime, and illegal

trade in wild animal species. The latter also raises the risk of zoonotic diseases, such as Ebola and COVID-19, Guterres said.

"So, on this year's World Wildlife Day, I urge governments, businesses and people everywhere to scale up efforts to conserve forests and forest species, and to support and listen to the voices of forest communities", he said.

# Budget 2021: No 'Green Revolution' From Sunak

*By Roger Harrabin, BBC environment analyst*

**C**RITICS have said Budget measures did not go far enough to address the scale of the challenge of climate change. Chancellor Rishi Sunak announced a change to the Bank of England's remit as part of green measures in the Budget. He also confirmed an infrastructure bank to invest mainly in green projects.

**However, Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer said the Budget stopped "way short" of the action needed to tackle the climate emergency.**

Mr Sunak shielded drivers from a fuel duty rise and he clawed back money from a key home insulation scheme. The remit of the Bank of England will change to include a duty to support the move towards near zero emissions.

Green Finance campaigner Simon Youel welcomed the move, saying it "should at a minimum mean the Bank dumping risky fossil fuels from its corporate quantitative easing programme and shifting funds towards green job-creating projects".

The new National Infrastructure Bank, which the government says will channel billions of pounds into capital projects as part of its "levelling-up agenda", was first announced in December.

Anna Marie Slot from the law firm Ashurst said: "The chancellor is clearly signalling his commitment to sustainable finance and creating a place for the UK at the centre stage of its development in the coming years."

Furthermore, Sam Hall, director of the Conservative Environment Network, said the chancellor had focussed on delivering the green industrial revolution. "It's essential that the government sets out further measures to mobilise significant levels of private capital into projects that both create jobs and tackle environmental challenges," he said.

Critics said the chancellor's measures don't help bring the "green industrial revolution" promised by Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Labour leader Sir Keir said: "The biggest challenge for this country is the climate emergency."

"The Chancellor talks up his green credentials but his Budget stops way short of what is needed or what is happening in other countries. This Budget should have included a major green stimulus, bringing forward billions of pounds of investment to create new jobs and new green infrastructure."

Instead, Sir Keir said, the government was trying to build a new coal mine.

Environmentalists said the Budget offered promising words but few new incentives to shift towards a low-carbon economy.

Green Party co-leader Jonathan Bartley said: "We are deeply disappointed that, in the

middle of a climate emergency, the chancellor has failed to put climate at the heart of his budget today. It's no good talking about the climate the week before the Budget and the week afterwards and then side-lining it in the Budget itself."

For example, spare cash from the government's home insulation scheme was not rolled over. The Green Homes Grant (GHG) offers home owners up to £10,000 to insulate their homes and install low carbon heating such as heat pumps.

The Chancellor had previously allocated £1.5bn for the GHG until the end of March, but many householders couldn't contact installers, and some installers didn't get paid because the system was so creaky. That meant only 6% of the cash was spent. Environmentalists wanted to roll over the money to swell next year's fund, but that won't happen.

Campaigners said the Treasury has failed to grasp the size of the task to renovate the UK's homes and reduce emissions. Heat - mainly from gas - produces around a quarter of the UK's emissions.

Joanne Wade from the Association for Decentralised Energy, which promotes energy efficiency, told BBC News: "It ceases to surprise me, but sometimes I do despair that the government just doesn't get it. We won't tackle climate change unless we sort out insulation and heating. We need a long-term government programme to allow the industry to grow with confidence year-on-year."

The chancellor re-iterated the government's commitment to revitalise industrial hot spots and hiring local people into "green" jobs. He pledged £27m for an Aberdeen Energy Transition Zone to help the area away from oil and gas and £5m for a Global Underwater Hub in Scotland for undersea technologies.

There will also be a savings scheme to allow citizens to back projects that would benefit the environment, but there was no sign of the previously-mooted shift in taxes in which people are punished for pollution and rewarded for cleaning up.

Labour's Ed Miliband said: "The government's rhetoric offers simply a green mirage, but without meaningful action and investment it will remain a mirage. We need a proper green stimulus plan - not empty words."

Fatima Ibrahim, from the group Green New Deal UK, said: "Our response to the climate

crisis should have been front and centre of the Budget, not a footnote.

"Last month Boris Johnson told the UN Security Council that climate change is as big a threat to world peace as war. Yet today's Budget shows a decided dip in both rhetoric and action."

Independent think tank the Green Alliance wanted the Treasury to test for all government spending decisions against whether they would help the environment. It has also been campaigning for a net-zero compatible tax system, achieved through VAT reforms.

Reducing VAT on refurbishment would end the imbalance that favours demolition, and putting zero-rated VAT on repairs would underpin government investment in retrofitting buildings.

The group had hoped these might be included in the Budget but they were disappointed.





# TPO Problems Outside Broadland

**A MALICIOUS tip-off sparked an unsuccessful attempt to place a Tree Preservation Order on two trees that were never under threat.**

Winchester City Council's planning committee has, unusually, rejected the confirmation of the TPO for two western red cedars in a back garden on Compton Down. Tree owner Una Stevens, of Cliff Way, told the committee that the garden and the trees were the second most important things in her life after her grandchildren.

City council tree officers placed a temporary Order on the trees last November after being tipped off by 'phone and e-mail that the trees were in danger. When it emerged that they were not under threat the officers still wanted the TPO because of the trees' value, the planning committee heard.

However, the committee disagreed and voted by four to two not to confirm the Order, believing it would be wrong to impose the financial burden of the TPO from the roots of a malicious tip-off.

Mrs Stevens, of Cliff Way, told the committee that the episode had been deeply upsetting. "It was with total shock that we received the TPO. No planning application has ever been submitted in the 34 years we have lived here and there never will be one in our lifetimes.

"We are not tree killers. We are here to preserve our garden. Our garden, apart from our grandchildren, is the most important thing in our lives. It is difficult to feel it is not a personal attack when the reason (for the TPO) is untrue."

Tree officer Ivan Gurdler said the tip-off was the trigger to act, but that the trees were subsequently deemed worthy of a TPO. It was unclear if the council knew the identity of the informant. The identity has not been publicly revealed.

Committee chairman Therese Evans said she was sorry Mr and Mrs Stevens were upset but that they should not view a TPO as a personal attack on them. Cllr David McLean it would be "deeply unfair" to impose the financial burden of a TPO on Mr and Mrs Stevens.

The four councillors to oppose the TPO were Cllrs Russell Gordon-Smith, McLean, Lawrence Ruffell and Roger Bentote. The chairman and vice chairmen Therese Evans and Aneгла Clear supported it.

Afterwards Mrs Stevens told the Chronicle the TPO process should be reformed: "We regard this episode as an absolute disgrace. Eventually, the action to 'confirm' (not 'consider'), the TPO appeared as an item on the planning committee agenda. The entire process seems to be about confirming the Order, the concept of subjecting the assertion to scrutiny seems absent.

"These features of the process leave it wide open to abuse by malicious parties. We believe we are the victims of such abuse by a neighbour. Despite the happy outcome, the malefactor will be pleased. He has subjected us to three months of stress, a heavy workload, and not inconsiderable expense.

"Once the Council allows itself to become involved in one neighbour's grudge against another, it is not only putting its statutory procedures in jeopardy, but is effectively sponsoring a charter for malicious neighbours, who can, so easily, throw truth to the four winds."

Mrs Stevens added: "Put quite simply, this whole sorry saga should never have been allowed to happen. Looking to the future, we shall do all in our power to prevent its recurrence. It is with this aim that we shall be requesting a review of the manner in which TPOs are handled locally with the leader of the city council and, if necessary, at national level."

**Q. How can you identify a dogwood?**

**A. By its bark !!**

**A TPO has been placed on woodland at the centre of a controversial planning application in a historic Yorkshire village.**

Sheffield Council made the order on trees at Storrs Bridge Lane, Loxley, around the former Hepworth's refractory site by the River Loxley. Plans to build up to 300 new homes on the site prompted 900 objections and were unanimously refused by councillors last September. Loxley is one of the locations claimed as the birthplace of the legend Robin Hood.

Developers Patrick Properties appealed and a planning inquiry is due to be held this month.

Jack Foxall, of the council's urban and environmental design team, says in a report: "The Tree Preservation Order was made in October on land at the former brick refractory works at Storrs Bridge Lane. Trees at this site are considered to be under possible threat because of potential future development works.

"These trees were found to be of significant amenity value to the local area and consequently suitable for protection according to criteria. Officers considered it expedient in the interests of amenity to make the order."

Patrick Properties did object to the TPO but not within the deadline of the statutory consultation period.

The report adds: "The closing date for objections was November 2020, as stated on notices issued to all affected parties including Patrick Properties. As such, the council is under no obligation to consider this objection.

"Nonetheless, the council responded to the objection. Woodland categorisation was judged the most suitable of the limited range of categories available under the TPO regulations. The assessment undertaken by officers was clear that protection of trees was fully justified.

"Protection of the trees will benefit the visual

amenity of the local environment."

An Order may prohibit the cutting, topping, lopping or uprooting of the trees and also prohibit the wilful damage or destruction of them. Anyone who contravenes an order could receive a fine of up to £20,000.

**CLOSER to home, Broads Authority bosses have said "we hope this acts as a warning" after successfully prosecuting a landowner for trying to kill a protected tree.**

The landowner admitted drilling holes in a tree in the Oulton Broad conservation area and filling them with fungal pellets as part of a plan to rebuild a house.

A planning application was submitted to the Broads Authority in November 2020 for the replacement of a house on Broad View Road, which is uninhabitable due to water damage, as well as a new development on an adjoining plot and removal of the mature beech tree.

However, a revised application was submitted the following month after an objection was raised by the authority's arboricultural consultant.

In January, the consultant visited the site and concluded the tree was in good condition, despite the discovery of three holes in the trunk which had been filled with fungal pellets and plugged with twigs.

A full survey of the tree was made days later, where a total of 18 holes were discovered, with five having mushrooms growing inside, although not all holes had pellets inside, with a provisional Tree Preservation Order served following the visit.

The landowner took responsibility for the work and admitted it was "foolish and ill-considered".

On 5 March 2021, the Broads Authority heard that the tree's removal could increase the value of a replacement house.

Bill Dickson queried if there were alternative options that should be taken rather than prosecution, given the landowner had admitted fault. Officer Cally Smith said they had considered other options before bringing the case to the authority, including whether they should demand a replacement tree.

"Not only did they know it was a protected tree but they knew that planning officers would object to its removal. If there was genuine remorse for the work they have done they could've come to us but that didn't happen and it was almost a year before we were made aware of it."

Ms Smith added there was also a public interest in the prosecution and not pursuing the case would be "undermining our position as a public authority".

Fran Whymark agreed they had to prosecute, saying: "Otherwise, anyone who wants to get rid of a tree will feel carte blanche to do so."

The recommendation to prosecute passed unanimously. Chair of the planning committee, Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro, said: "There was little else we could do on this occasion. We hope this will be a warning to anybody else who decided to attempt to pull wool over our eyes with regards to these beautiful trees."

**How do trees get online?**



**They just log in.**



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# Last of the Large Trees: A Day at the Errinundra Forest Blockade

*An article by Rachel Mounsey published on [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com)*

**T**HE word was out: a section of the unburnt forest on the edge of the scorched Errinundra plateau in Australia was set to be logged and the small nearby community of Gongora in Gippsland's far east were on alert. Goongerah is nestled on the edge of the plateau. The "green" town has a history of conservation and many of its residents settled there in the early 80s to blockade against the fast train that was set to pass through the region. Thanks to their efforts, the train line didn't go ahead.

Now a handful of people have come together under tarps and banners to form another blockade. Last year they were devastated as they watched the old-growth forests they'd fought to protect for decades turn to ash. They've returned to fight for the remaining pockets of green. Each has their own reasons but all are determined to save the forest.

At 27, Hayley quit her job as a chef in Brisbane, packed up her car and headed out to the Leard forest Maules Creek blockade in March 2014. "It was all in a leap of faith. I felt a deep sense of responsibility. I made a pledge for my future children and grandchildren that, in my lifetime, I did everything in my power to stop it getting as bad as it could have been."

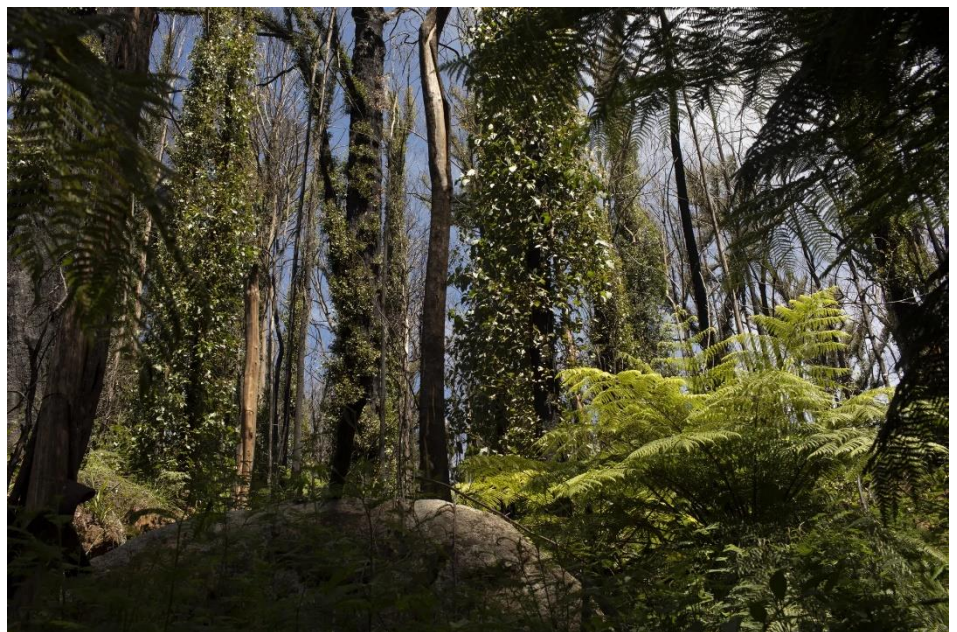
Now she's a veteran of numerous protests and her son Maleluka comes to every blockade. "I am raising him to be resilient to see what's happening," she explains. "I want him to be tough enough to cope with what's coming because I'm really scared about the future."

Many of 23-year-old Indigo York's earliest childhood memories are of sleeping in the back seat of the car, out in the bush in Goongerah, while her dad set up radios for forest blockades. "Blockades were always in the backdrop," she says. "I think being around blockading instilled a real sense of how important community and grassroots-based change is."

She is in the final year of her law degree at Monash University. It's something she started studying in order to defend blockaders and protect forests via the courts. "Growing up here, I remember walking the plateau and I know how beautiful it is. I want other people to experience it, the lyrebirds, the possums, the flora, the fauna. Others might not get to experience this and it's a shame," she says.

"Between bushfires and logging, many species won't return, like the owls we saw the other night. They rely on hollows that you only get in the old trees. There are less and less patches of suitable forest left and the idea that they [will be] logged is devastating."

Anita Davis has spent over a decade blockading in East Gippsland forests. "We definitely made a difference. The additions we got to Errinundra, Goolengook and the Snowy – none of that would've happened without blockading," she says.



"I spent all my 20s and half of my 30s trying to protect these forests and now to see many may be gone forever. It's heartbreaking," she says. "We'd just won the extension to protect the Kuark forest in 2018 from the Victorian government, and now it's all gone, it's hard to put that loss into words. I am devastated about how much we've lost."

"I shouldn't be shocked, but it's still shocking," she adds. "East Gippsland lost up to 80% of all of its forest and 50% of its national park forests and they're still logging. It's not strictly about old-growth forests anymore. It's now just trying to keep any forest we have left."

When Owen Hanson was eight years old, he pulled his first crayfish from the water catchment at his Martin Creek property in Victoria. He couldn't believe his eyes. He dropped the spindly creature back into the creek and ran as fast as his legs could carry him. "We got lobsters," he remembers screaming in delight. Back then, he didn't know the difference between a crayfish and a lobster. He also didn't know he'd still be fighting for their protection a decade and a half later.

In 2009, the loggers cleared much of the forest around his family's Goongerah property and water catchment: "It was a hell of an intro into the nitty gritty of forestry," he says. "They flogged my backyard with that whole concept of

'she'll-be-right-mate'. [They clear felled] what was a nice damp forest. Five years later, in 2014, a bushfire tore through and then, in 2020, it was up in smoke again." He says his backyard now looks like a wasteland: "That's one shitty legacy to leave behind, it's never gonna get the chance to turn into a forest."

Tiffany Tarrant remembers seeing people protesting on the TV when she was a child. "I turned to my mum and said 'I'm going to do that when I'm older'," she says. After attending a citizen science camp in the depths of Victoria's Kuark forest, she knew she had to move to East Gippsland.

Being a self-proclaimed "plant nerd", she loved being able to walk through the big trees, taking in their quiet beauty, while looking out for threatened species. She says "The forest has had a really hard time of it,". "The older trees, they're surviving a lot better than the ones planted 30 years ago. They're struggling to keep up. I'm worried about the younger regrowth and the likelihood of repeated fires."

She hopes that places like the plateau survive. "I'd hate to be here when there's nothing left. The forest represents what it was like before colonisation. We're witnessing the last of the large trees and that's quite depressing."



# Councils Secure Share of £2.9m Emergency Tree Fund from Woodland Trust

**L**OCAL councils are receiving a share of a £2.9 million “emergency tree fund” to help them plant trees and create green spaces in their communities. The funding from the Woodland Trust forms part of its ambition to establish 50 million more trees by 2025 to help tackle the climate and nature crisis, creating new woods and working with government, businesses, landowners and the public to achieve the goal.

The nature charity said it is providing funding to local councils at a time when finances are tight to help create more green spaces and woodland which people have found valuable in the pandemic.

In the first phase of the project, the trust is working with 11 authority areas across the UK, including Glasgow city region, which is hosting UN climate talks in November, and Sheffield council, which has transformed its approach since the controversial felling of street trees several years ago.

The charity said many local authorities have declared climate and nature emergencies and set out ambitious tree-planting targets – and the funding is aimed at helping make their green projects a reality.

John Tucker said: “The trust’s Emergency Tree Fund has the power to inspire tree-planting and woodland creation and galvanise the need to treasure trees and green spaces in their neighbourhoods across the UK.

“What the country’s fight against COVID has shown is how communities have come together in a time of crisis. As the pandemic hopefully abates, getting outside and planting, maintaining and enjoying trees will be a way for this spirit to be harnessed once again in a different but a very important way – to tackle the climate and nature crises which also affects us all.”

The local authorities receiving funding are as follows:

**Edinburgh Council – £298,055.** The council is aiming for the city to become a “one million tree” city by 2030.

**Glasgow City Region – £400,003.** Eight councils have come together to create the Clyde Climate Forest to increase urban tree cover from 16% to 20%.

**Sheffield City Council – £183,319.** Sheffield’s “Treevitalise” project will engage communities in protecting and restoring woodland, boost the community forestry team, and protect trees outside woods.

**Belfast City Council – £289,585.** The council aims to plant one million trees over the next 15 years.

**Wokingham Council – £300,000.** The Berkshire local authority is looking to plant more than 250,000 trees across the borough.

**Cornwall Council – £293,965.** The council has already launched its Forest of Cornwall funding, which will help fulfil its aim to create 8,000 ha of woodland over the coming years.

**Devon County Council – £297,349.** The local authority wants to create a “Devon net zero”, including measures to plant trees on its land, creating a tree strategy for the county, and tackling tree disease.

**Cardiff Council – £228,862.** The council is looking to plant more than 800 ha of tree cover over the next decade.

**Bolsover District Council – £269,160.** The council aims to plant more than 27,000 trees and create and inspire a series of community woodlands.

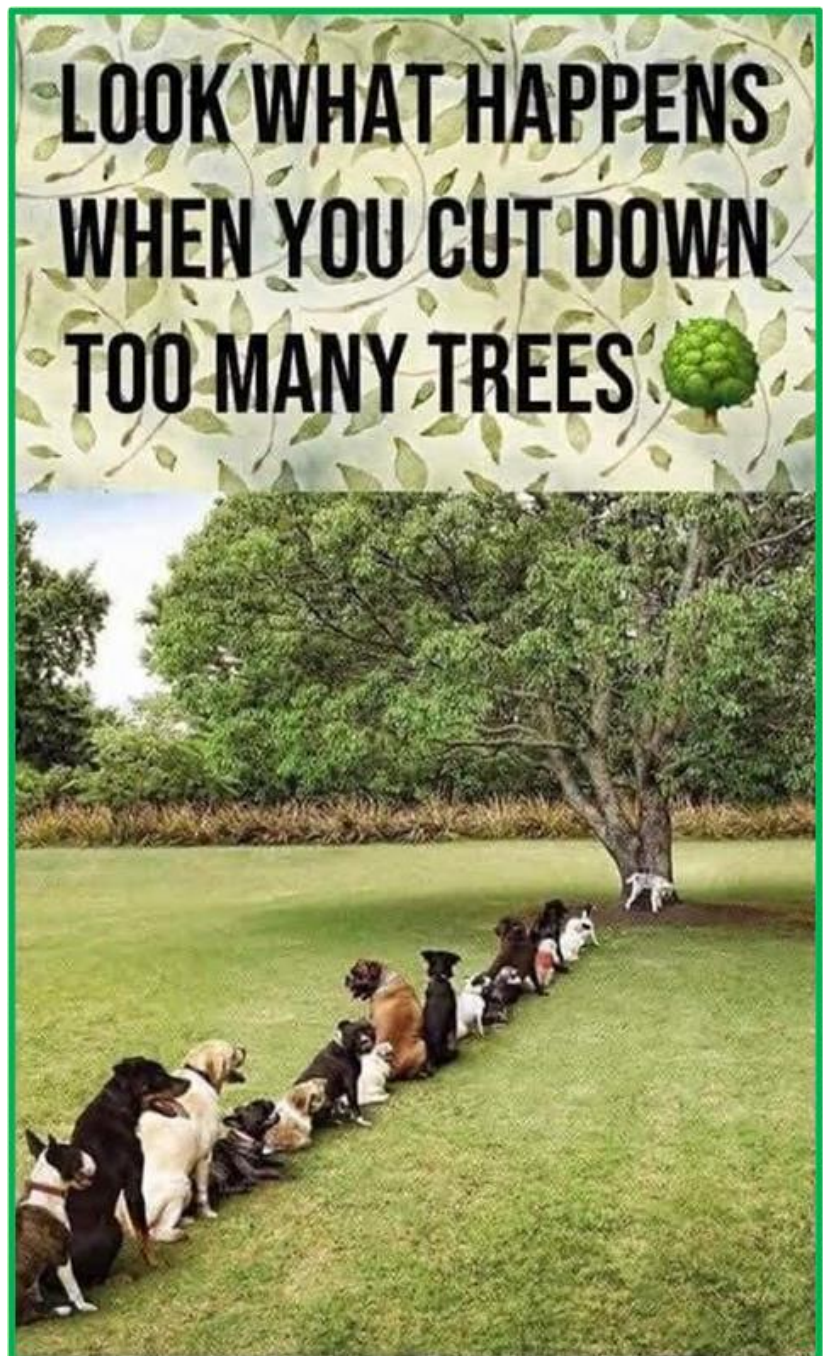
**Wolverhampton Council – £129,500.** The council is looking to plant pockets of woodland on a range of open spaces in the city.

**Black Country Consortium – £175,000.** The money will go towards a comprehensive

assessment of the area’s tree stock.

*Editor’s comment – So why is no money being given to Norfolk? Indeed, putting on my hat as representative for the eastern region on the Tree Council’s Tree Warden National Advisory Group why is no money being given to the east of England?*

*Is it simply that nobody took the time to ask?*





# Battling Ash Dieback on the MOD Defence Training Estate

An article by Karen Porter published on <https://environmentjournal.online>

**O**VER two-thirds of the Ministry of Defence (MOD)'s land is held solely for training the armed forces, but it is also well used by the general public, farming and hobbyist tenants. Since discovering the first large scale infection of ash dieback on the MOD's Defence Training Estate (DTE), Landmarc Support Services (Landmarc) has worked with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) on a rigorous programme to help combat the disease.

After subsequent survey work, the infection was identified in many of the woodlands across the DTE, in various degrees of severity. This was of concern, as aside from the ecological impact, the risk of trees becoming brittle, unstable and prone to collapse posed many hazards.

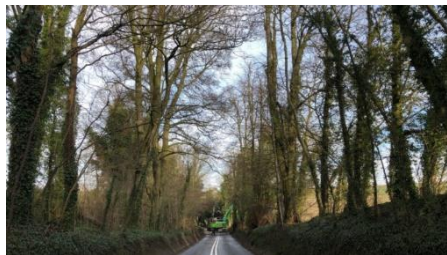
As DIO's industry partner for managing the UK DTE, Landmarc knew that fast action was required and a wide-scale tree-felling programme, based on detailed assessments of tree health and the associated risks in each woodland, would help protect end users. This includes the removal of unsafe trees, while retaining as many other trees as possible to retain local genotypes and contribute to the future of ash across the UK.

Approximately 140,000 trees have been affected, with Salisbury Plain Training Area one of the worst affected areas. Diseased trees have successfully been removed from a number of the Plain's training woodlands, including a complex area along the busy A345 road, where many infected mature ash were present in the hedgerows.

The risks involved in felling delicate and mature trees along this road, coupled with the additional risk of power lines threading through the tree line, meant that specialist machinery and methodologies were used to ensure the safety of onsite workers, as well as the preservation of surrounding trees and infrastructure.

Felling in winter is a complex task due to waterlogged ground conditions and brittle and rotten wood within the tree crown, but it was critical that this stage of the project was completed in plenty of time before spring. Previous felling operations at one of the Estate's Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), allowed the teams to learn invaluable lessons about the importance of timing felling works to help minimise soil damage, as well as planning around bird nesting and protected species.

The preservation of the Defence Training Estate's ash trees and genetic diversity, as well as managing the health and safety risks from dead and dying trees, remains at the heart



of the Ash Dieback Strategy. Ecological surveys were undertaken during the planning stages of the project to ensure the presence of ash in the long term and minimise the impact on associated species and wider biodiversity.

Maintaining a wide variety of landscapes is not only essential for the preservation of UK woodland, but also for effective military training. The purpose of the Defence Training Estate is to ensure the armed forces have a quality training experience that resembles as many real-life worldwide environments as possible.

So far, around 80,000 trees have been felled on Salisbury Plain and the planning of the area's replanting process has begun. The regeneration stage of this project is clearly of prime importance, and Landmarc and DIO have held extensive discussions with the Forestry Commission and Natural England about the restoration of felled areas, leading to approved

Felling Licences to carry out this work.

Space has been left for the natural regeneration of tree seed already in the soil and this will be enhanced with the planting of native broadleaved species. A small proportion of felled timber has also been left on site to provide deadwood habitats to help maintain the current flora and fauna as much as possible.

Collaboratively, the two organisations will take into consideration what species will be planted to provide a resilient and future-proofed woodland when faced with climate change, extreme weather conditions and any future diseases. Not only this, but as military training is a top priority, plans must include a variety of terrain that enables our Armed Forces to achieve their training objectives.

Understanding the importance of the general public's co-operation, Landmarc, DIO and local authoritative bodies proactively engage with communities and stakeholders in each location where felling work will have an impact.

As a government department, the MOD does not qualify for Forestry Commission grants and so the UK-wide project has to continue to be sustainable and self-funding. Timber from the felling is being sold standing for structural and furniture use, and a wood-fuelled biomass plant. Selling the timber supports the UK timber processing sector and helps to fund the

operation, easing the burden on MOD budgets and used for reinstating the site – rebuilding tracks, erecting deer fences and restocking the woodland.

Future works are continually being evaluated, looking at the latest scientific information about how ash dieback and associated diseases are developing and infecting the tree population. Where possible, trees are retained to see what resilience and resistance they are developing.

The ash dieback disease itself, and the actions undertaken to fight it, have served as a valuable lesson as to how we must go about securing the future of our woodlands. Landmarc rural specialists work with regulatory bodies, such as the Forestry Commission, on how to deal with the disease in other areas of the UK, with the future aim of moving away from single species woodland, to diversify landscapes, and to enhance biodiversity of all kinds.

**Money is made from Paper,  
Paper is made from Woods,  
Woods are from Trees..**

**This means**

**“Money grows on Trees !”**





# Grieving Relatives Told Not to Place Memorial Plaques at the Enchanted Forest

An article by Rachel Amery published on [www.eveningtelegraph.co.uk](http://www.eveningtelegraph.co.uk)

**G**RIEVING relatives are being told not to place memorial plaques at the Enchanted Forest to make sure the woodland does not lose its “special appeal”. Recently a small number of memorials, including one for a young child, have been placed by bereaved loved ones in tribute to deceased relatives in the woods around Loch Dunmore near Pitlochry.

As well as being a popular walking and fishing spot, Loch Dunmore is best known as the location for the Enchanted Forest, which attracts around 80,000 tourists to Highland Perthshire every year.

However, these memorials are now being removed by Forestry and Land Scotland because they are not in keeping with the wild landscape. An appeal has been put out to try and find the relatives who have memorials in the forest, and to encourage others not to place new ones down.

The memorials are being removed by Forestry and Land Scotland if the relatives cannot be traced.

A spokesman for Forestry and Land Scotland said: “We are fortunate enough to manage many special places and wild landscapes that mean a great deal to many people. Unfortunately, the fact that these places are so well-loved often leads families to leave memorials but if we did not manage this, many locations would soon lose their special appeal to other visitors.

“We therefore ask people not to leave memorials in the forest and will, when we find any, try to get in touch with the family and ask that they remove the memorial. Where we cannot or do not get any response from families, we will remove the memorials and store them for a couple of years in case the family makes later contact.

“We would urge anyone reading this who has concerns about any memorial they might have placed on land that we manage to get in touch.”

Two of the memorial stones at the loch were to Colin and Margaret Preen from Tummel Bridge. Melanie Elmer removed her father-in-law Colin's stone from Loch Dunmore over the weekend after being told of the situation by a friend.

However, Forestry and Land Scotland have



offered her family the option of having a bench in their loved ones' memories instead.

She said: “My father-in-law Colin Pree was instrumental in starting up the fishing and angling club at Loch Dunmore. “He also had polio when he was young and was in crutches so he made the fishing platforms there accessible. It was a special place for him, that is why we had the memorial.

“We used to live in nearby Tummel Bridge and someone who still lives there saw this on social media and let us know about it, and we immediately rang Forestry and Land Scotland and went up to go and take it.

“At first I couldn't believe what was happening, but after speaking to the guy I thought ‘fair enough’. “They want to keep it a wild place, but they were forthcoming with a solution – some Douglas firs have fallen down at The Hermitage near Dunkeld and they are going to use that wood to make benches at Loch Dunmore, and we are very happy with that.

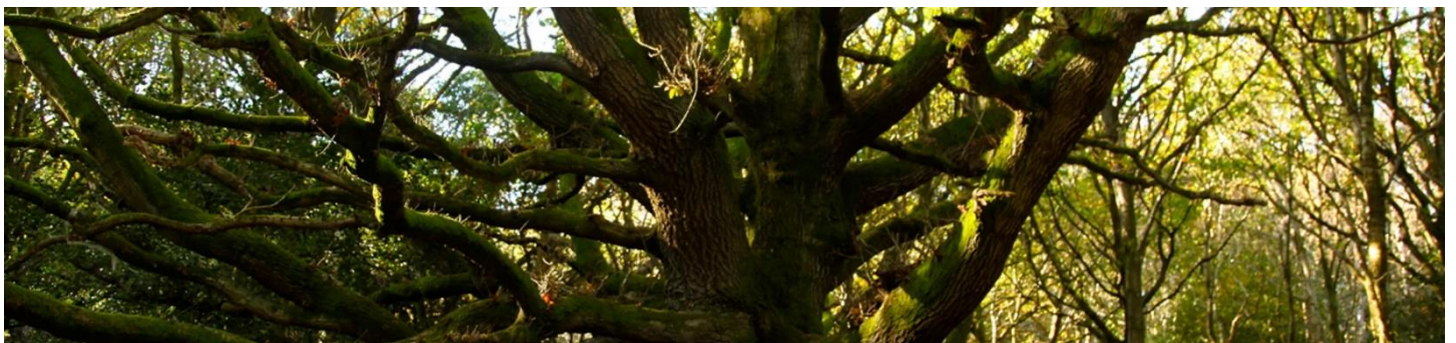
“I am pleased there is this bench solution because people do want to remember.

“I do feel for the person who has a memorial there to a young child because that is a different situation. It is heartbreaking and very upsetting to see it there. It is a difficult one.”

The gravestone-style memorial has since been given to a family member to keep in their garden instead.

Councillor Mike Williamson, who represents Highland Perthshire at Perth and Kinross Council, says he hopes the removal of memorial stones and plaques is handled with dignity.

He said: “We live in a beautiful part of the country. I understand the reason why these memorials have to be removed as this type of memorial can become very difficult to manage if it gets out of hand. I do hope that Forestry and Land Scotland handle this removal as sensitively as possible and respect the memories that are hidden within these memorials.”





# Africa's Vast Forest Potential Untapped, Circular Bioeconomy Could Help

*An article by Sandra Cordon published on <https://forestsnews.cifor.org>*

**AFRICA has enormous potential to derive more value from its forests without producing more wood and could thus provide a good example of the possibilities of the circular bioeconomy, says Lauri Hetemäki, assistant director, European Forest Institute (EFI). Africa produced 54% more wood and has four times more forest area than the European Union in 2019; yet the export value of EU forest products was 17 times greater than in Africa – \$100 billion compared with \$6 billion, he explained during a digital summit demonstrating the potential benefits of a circular bioeconomy.**

**The “Nature at the Heart of a Global Circular Economy” digital forum, which opened with an address by Britain’s Prince Charles, brought together policy-makers, economists, academics and researchers.**

While deriving greater value from its forests, Africa could advance its environmental, economic and social sustainability, said Hetemäki, but to realise all of this, Africa must also develop its circular forest bioeconomy and supportive policies.

The concept – an economy powered by nature and sustainable use of its many resources – offers a unique opportunity to use renewable natural capital to holistically transform and manage land, food, health and industrial systems, proponents say. The model focuses on minimising waste and replacing the non-renewable, fossil-based products on which most economies rely.

“The circular bioeconomy means, above all, creating an economy where life, not consumption, is its true engine and purpose,” said Marc Palahi, director of EFI, during the opening of the event organized by EFI, Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and World Agroforestry (ICRAF), with the Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra, in collaboration with the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) and the Sustainable Markets Initiative Circular Bioeconomy Alliance (SMI CBA).

For example, in the past Gabon earned mere pennies from each dollar’s worth of wood its people harvested and exported, distorting attitudes and leading to deforestation and loss of ecosystem services, said Lee White, minister of Water, Forest, the Sea and Environment. Part of the solution lies in convincing the people of Gabon that their wood is now much more valuable and therefore worth conserving, paradoxically by creating substantive jobs in the timber industry within the country.

“If we can create sustainable forestry industries, we can create hundreds of thousands of jobs and that gives us a constituency of people who are vested in maintaining the forest,” said White, describing this as an “industrial ecosystem...or, what the

world is calling the ‘circular economy,’” he said.



“That’s how we get the Gabonese people to become the protectors of forests that we need them to be,” while also protecting the Congo Basin more broadly to achieve the goals of the UN Paris Agreement on climate change. The 2015 pact aims to prevent mean annual temperatures from rising more than 1.5 to 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

Keeping people and their communities “at the heart” of a bioeconomy is critical to its success, said Christopher Martius, managing director of CIFOR Germany. “Otherwise, it will not move forward in countries that are stricken by poverty and missing policies.”



The crisis provoked by the coronavirus pandemic, along with a rising interest in sustainable investment, means the world must move quickly “to seize this window of opportunity,” for change, said Prince Charles, a long-time advocate for the environment. He leads the Sustainable Markets Initiative, which he launched at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in 2020. Its goal is to support an informed transition to a climate-neutral, inclusive circular bioeconomy through a multi-stakeholder

approach.

“The time for talking is past,” Charles said in a video message. “We must invest in nature as the true engine for a new economy. A circular bioeconomy that gives back to nature as much as we take from her in order to restore urgently the balance we have so rashly disrupted.”

Akanksha Khatri, head of Nature Action Agenda, WEF’s Platform, Global Public Goods, said: “We need solutions on steroids.” Those solutions should focus as much on the effectiveness of institutions as on market mechanisms. This would require working in close collaboration with local governments, community-based organizations and improving program transparency.

“Restoring nature is essential to us achieving sustainable development; we see that our present economic models are a threat to nature and to our well-being,” said Sharon Ikeazor, Nigeria’s minister of state for environment. Nigeria is counting on the circular bioeconomy model, which is nature focused, but boosts employment, fights poverty, and supports the well-being of Nigerians while making use of their traditional knowledge, she said.

“The majority of our people in live in forest-dependent communities and so the restoration of degraded landscapes could definitely drive economic development and create employment.” As a circular bioeconomy brings together technological and traditional nature-based solutions, it would also support industrial and technological transformation, Ikeazor added.

The bioeconomy is actually the world’s original economy to which we are now returning, said Mari Pantsar, director, Sustainability Solutions at the Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra.

“We really need systemic change to solve the sustainability crisis, with climate change, nature loss and pollution,” Pantsar said. “A holistic approach will not only tackle these, it can also tackle social challenges.”

This digital summit has demonstrated the potential of a circular bioeconomy to create new, sustainable industries and livelihoods – all that is missing now is concerted action, said Robert Nasi, director general of CIFOR, and managing director, CIFOR-ICRAF.

“We can do it, we know how to do it, so now – let’s do it.”



# The Princess Royal's Message on International Day of Forests: 'We all Benefit from Our Trees and Wood'

*An article by Jess Ilse published on <https://royalcentral.co.uk>*

**T**HE Princess Royal released a video message marking International Day of Forests through the Woodland Trust last month. In her message, Princess Anne said: "The 21st of March marks the International Day of Forests—a day designed to raise awareness of the importance of forests, woods and trees across the world.

"We know more now about the incredible range of benefits that trees deliver to us and our planet than at any other time in mankind's existence and yet, through global deforestation, the world is losing millions of hectares of forest every year."

The theme of this year's International Day of Forests is "forest restoration: a path to recovery and well-being."

"Trees make our life on earth possible, and yet, it is perhaps the everyday nature of them that has made it so easy to take them for granted," Princess Anne continued. "They generate oxygen, store carbon, stabilise the soil, play host to a spectacular variety of wildlife, provide us with raw materials and shelter and inspire our imaginations and our creativity.



"Nor should we forget that trees and woodlands make a positive difference to our own health and wellbeing. Life has changed for all of us over the past 12 months and during the most challenging of times, we have become aware of the importance of having regular access to green spaces. People have found comfort in woodland in these calming and magical places.

"We all benefit from our trees and woods and we could do with a great deal more of them. The Woodland Trust's hope for this year's International Day of Forests is that more of us stop taking our local trees for granted.

"The Woodland Trust has ambitious plans to plant 50 million trees over the next five years and we will be doing this involving as many people as possible. There are many ways to get involved, and if you can help in any way, do visit the Woodland Trust's website. We are always keen to work together.

"On this International Day of Forests, enjoy the trees, respect what they do for us now and help us plan for our future with many more trees. Thank you."

Princess Anne's full message can be viewed [here](#).

## Letter Demands Action Over 'UK Nature in Freefall'

*An article by Helen Briggs, BBC environment correspondent*

**M**ORE than 50 wildlife experts, politicians and celebrities have signed a letter to Boris Johnson demanding tougher action on nature loss. The UK prime minister's father, Stanley, is among signatories calling on the UK to become the first country to set legally binding targets for nature recovery. The government has pledged to protect 30% of land and sea for nature by 2030. The letter calls for this ambition to be enshrined in law.

The UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in Europe. Half of UK wildlife has decreased since 1970, with one in seven species now at risk of extinction. Rivers and lakes are in a poor state, due to pollution and sewage.

The open letter is signed by nature groups, from The Wildlife Trusts and the RSPB, to nature campaigners such as Chris Packham, Mya-Rose Craig and Dara McAnulty.

It says the Environment Bill "falls short of its potential to set world-leading nature targets", and the framework for target-setting is "too technocratic and slow".

The letter states: "Just as the UK led the



way in creating the world's first Climate Change Act, we can be the first country to set ambitious targets in law for the recovery of the natural world."

Furthermore, it concludes that a "mismatch in urgency and timescales" means that the PM's commitment to protect and manage 30% of land and seas for nature by 2030 cannot be placed in law under the Environment Bill framework.

Beccy Speight, chief executive of the RSPB, said: "Nature in the UK is in freefall - we are losing species and the habitat they need every year. Actions not just words are now required."

Dr Richard Benwell, the chief executive of Wildlife and Countryside Link, added: "First and foremost, we need a powerful target to improve the state of nature in the Environment Bill to ensure the government plays its part in protecting our natural world."

The Environment Bill, which has been delayed in Parliament for a third time, is expected to begin progress again through the House of Lords in May.

# Defra Announces Funding Boost and New Partnership with Forest for Cornwall

**DEFRA and Forest for Cornwall joined forces on 19 March to form an innovative new National Woodland Creation Partnership pilot to drive regional tree planting. The new partnership will be supported through an initial £120,000 uplift from the Nature for Climate Fund, Forestry Minister Lord Goldsmith has announced.**

Following the successful Northumberland Forest Partnership announced by the Environment Secretary in 2019, the Government is backing this Cornwall Council-led woodland creation partnership to help identify sites in Cornwall for woodland creation and bring local stakeholders on board.

Partnership Forum members include Cornwall Wildlife Trust, Duchy of Cornwall, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency, Natural England, Woodland Trust, National Trust, Tamar AONB, ConFor, CLA, NFU, South West Water, Cornwall Association of Local Councils, and West Country Rivers Trust.

The ambition of Forest for Cornwall, set out and led by Cornwall Council as a key part of its Carbon Neutral Action Plan, is to ensure that the woodlands created are best suited for the needs of communities in Cornwall. A mix of targeted tree and woodland planting will be carried out to achieve this, including:

- planting trees to provide shade in urban areas to help counter the high rates of skin cancer shown in the county;
  - planting trees in areas of high deprivation to provide well-being benefits for local communities;
  - enabling economic benefits for the county by developing well-designed woodlands of scale to encourage visitors; and
  - planting woodlands to enhance nature's recovery and flood mitigation
- Last month's announcement highlights the

essential role that local authorities and their partners have to play in achieving the Government's ambition to increase tree planting rates to 30,000 hectares per year across the UK by 2025. To meet this ambition, a locally led approach to tree and woodland creation is needed, and local partners are in a unique position to inform the delivery of tree planting on the ground.

Forestry Minister Lord Goldsmith said "This exciting new partnership in Cornwall emphasises the importance of working together and using a locally-led approach to help build back greener. I am pleased to announce that through the government's Nature for Climate Fund, trees will be planted where they are most needed, allowing more communities in Cornwall to have access to nature and in turn, to experience real benefits for health and wellbeing."

Forestry Commission Chair Sir William Worsley said "Trees are the backbone of our urban and rural environments and essential in tackling the climate emergency. As the largest land managers in England and the government's expert forestry advisors, we are excited to be part of this new pilot. This partnership will be crucial for deciding where trees need to be planted in Cornwall to provide maximum benefits for people, climate and nature."

Councillor Edwina Hannaford, portfolio holder for Neighbourhoods and Climate Change at Cornwall Council, said "We are delighted that

Defra is supporting our Forest for Cornwall Programme. As part of our commitment to tackle climate change, we are working with partners to appropriately plant hundreds of thousands of trees in our beautiful county. This funding will enable us to support more landowners and land managers who want to plant trees in different areas.

"In 2019 Cornwall Council issued a climate emergency and has set the ambitious target of being carbon neutral by 2030. As it grows the Forest for Cornwall will help us towards reaching that goal and help us create a better, greener future for the next generation."

By growing, protecting and restoring our trees, forests and woodlands we can help reduce carbon emissions, encourage biodiversity and nature recovery, grow our sustainable timber market, and improve people's health and wellbeing.

Defra is committed to protecting and restoring our natural environment. This is part of a series of Nature for Climate Fund announcements this spring, leading up to the publication of the government's action plan on trees, woodland and forestry.

In recent months, the government has announced £12.1 million of investment for tree planting in Community Forests across the country, as well as a new £3.9 million pot to support innovative planting schemes in towns and cities and near rivers to reduce flood risk.

## Tree Mulchers Speed up Ancient Peat Bog Restoration

**FORESTRY England is restoring the unique Border Mires using special machines to rip down spruce planted in the post-war era which damaged the habitat. Machines that munch through trees in seconds are being used to speed up the restoration process in one of the UK's most important peat habitats.**

**Demand for timber in the post-war era saw spruce planted in the unique Border Mires network near Kielder Water in Northumberland, with drainage put in to help growth.**

That dried out the nationally important sphagnum bog and the tree cover blocked out light in an environment where rare plant species should thrive. The mires, formed 12,000 years ago as the Ice Age ended, were also a useful hideout in the 17th century for Scottish cattle rustlers who used their knowledge of its paths to escape the English authorities. Now Forestry England is restoring the bogs using specially designed tree mulchers to rip down the spruce in seconds. The machines' wide tracks stop them sinking in the bog and their powerful cutting discs can turn trunks into chips, which are left in place to degrade. Once an area is cleared, the drains will be blocked and the mire

will be allowed to fill with water again.

While cutting down trees might seem to go against green thinking, bogs are great carbon stores. Forestry England ecologist Wayne Penrose said "These mires are incredibly important and represent one of the most natural of all UK habitats. Not only do they support a fantastic array of plants and animals, including sphagnum moss, bog asphodel, sundews, dragonflies and wading birds, but they also lock away carbon in the peat. Because of this they play a crucial role in mitigating the effects of climate change.

"We will also remove smaller spruce with chainsaws at three other locations covering 161 ha and blocking 3.5 km of drainage channels so the land retains water, the lifeblood of a bog."

Angus Lunn, Northumberland Wildlife Trust vice-president, said: "It is exactly 50 years since a group of Northumberland Wildlife Trust

volunteers, armed with spades, installed the first peat dams in drains in the Border Mires. It is a great satisfaction that collectively we have accomplished so much over the years in what was the first major peatland restoration project in Britain. "Some people may think bogs are not as beautiful as ancient woods or rainforests, but they are an incredibly valuable habitat and part of a rich mosaic of landscapes in Kielder Forest."

The mires, 15m deep in places, hold more liquid than Europe's largest man-made lake, Kielder Water. The Scottish cattle rustlers, often ex-soldiers disbanded following the Civil War, became known as "Moss Troopers". Such was their notoriety that legislation was introduced to curb their activities and they were also effectively excommunicated by the church.



# Brown Stink Bug Among Future Threats to Gardens

*By Helen Briggs, BBC Environment Correspondent*

**G**ARDENERS are being urged to be on alert for the stink bug insect and other pests set to arrive in the UK. The brown marmorated stink bug has been spotted at three places in England so far, but experts are warning that it may become more widespread. The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) said gardeners should be on their guard for the insect. It could appear alongside more familiar animals such as slugs, snails and the box tree caterpillar.

Andy Salisbury, principal entomologist at the RHS, said the pests and diseases that gardeners commonly face on their plots have fluctuated over the last 25 years.

"With gardens taking on a more important role in supporting wellbeing and the environment, it's important that research into management and mitigation of them continues and our rankings help inform this focus," he said. "It's also imperative that we continue to anticipate future threats such as the disease *Xylella*, which is already present in Europe, and the marmorated stink bug, to protect our gardens for the future."

The brown stink bug is one of a number of Asian insect species that have recently established and become a pest in the US, others being the harlequin ladybird, the emerald ash borer and the Asian longhorn. Of these, only the harlequin ladybird is firmly established in the UK, where it is now the most common ladybird species.

Insect curator at London's Natural History Museum, Max Barclay, predicts that the brown stink bug could establish in parts of the South East of England and may spread further with climate change.



"The brown marmorated stink bug is very similar to many harmless native species, so we hope people won't go out and start squashing everything similar!" he said. "We are only trying to determine how widespread it is at this stage, and we are happy to identify specimens sent to the museum's Facebook group or via e-mail."

The three sightings so far have been in Essex, Surrey, and in the Museum's Wildlife Garden.

The warning came as the RHS released its latest tally of pests plaguing gardens, with slugs and snails topping the list. The box tree caterpillar slipped down the rankings as its march slows across England and Wales. Honey fungus topped the list of diseases, as it has for 25 years.

With more people spending time in their

garden during lockdown, the RHS reported an 88% increase in pest and disease enquiries last year.

The RHS conducts research on a wide range of plant pests and disease. This work will move to new science laboratories at RHS Garden Wisley, which will be opened to the public in June.

#### Top 10 pests 2020:

- Slugs and snails
- Vine weevil
- Box tree caterpillar
- Ants
- Woolly aphid
- Glasshouse red spider mite
- Fuchsia gall mite
- Glasshouse thrips
- Rosy apple aphid
- Capsid bug & glasshouse mealybug

#### Top 10 diseases 2020:

- Honey fungus
- Pear rust
- Leaf spot and canker of Prunus
- Rose black spot
- Bracket fungi
- Powdery mildew of Prunus
- Blossom wilt of fruit trees = rose powdery mildew/*Phytophthora* root rots
- Brown rot of fruit

## COVID-19 Memorial Trees

*A great idea from Joy Ramsey, one of our Tree Wardens for Drayton*

**J**OY RAMSEY has been a Tree Warden for Drayton for probably more years than either of us like to remember. She has always had great ideas and ensured a regular amount of new planting in her parish. That is why I didn't hesitate to support a great idea she had for planting memorial trees for victims of the terrible COVID-19 pandemic.

At the time of writing this article the global number of deaths as a result of COVID-19 stands at 2,680,000 with a frightening 121,140,000 confirmed cases. Here in the UK the death toll stands at 126,000.

Yes, here in Norfolk the rate of infections and resultant deaths is considerably less and in Broadland we have suffered even less than that. That's great for us, but every victim of this pandemic has suffered a horrifying and no doubt terrifying death.

For the families and loved ones the passing

must have been agonising, not being able to hold the hand of a husband, wife, child, parent, grandparent, sweetheart or precious friend as he or she went to the great ancient woodland in the sky.

There but for the grace of whatever you believe in goes you or I.

So don't you think that we survivors of COVID-19 owe it to those poor souls to commemorate their lives in some way?

The first thing that came to mind when Joy suggested this was for us to plant a commemorative woodland. Just a few acres. However, finding a piece of publicly-owned land on which to create that would be far from easy.

So, the simple option is for each parish to

have its own memorial. Maybe it could be a small memorial orchard, but probably the best idea is for the Network to supply a standard tree for you to plant in your parish to commemorate the lives of those local victims.

With the planting season now ended we will have to wait until, say, November. Furthermore, we can't be sure that the pandemic will be under control by then and my personal view is that I definitely won't be putting any money in it!!

Just maybe Joy's idea can be adopted throughout the nation's Tree Warden's Network.

So, what do you think? Please let me know. I would hate Drayton and Freethorpe to be the only parishes to plant such trees.

I look forward to hearing from you.

# Hellesdon Parish Council Offers Trees to Help Improve Wellbeing for Residents

An article by Ben Hardy published on [www.edp24.co.uk/news](http://www.edp24.co.uk/news)

**D**OZENS of trees are being offered to residents as part of a green project in a Norwich suburb. Hellesdon Parish Council is currently distributing a total of 100 trees for people to collect, with around half of these being taken up as it stands. The scheme intends to improve wellbeing as well as helping to keep Hellesdon green.

Residents are able to select from a choice of trees with blackthorn, crab apple, hawthorn, hazel, hornbeam, spindle and wayfaring tree all available.

Hellesdon Parish Council clerk Natasha Carver said spindle has been the most popular species among residents so far. She said: "As a parish council, we are committed to increase the tree coverage to improve the wellbeing of those who live here.

"Someone decided at the end of last year that it would be a good idea and the tree Wardens from Broadland turned up with them. It is something different for people to do and we hope to introduce more projects to help lift people's spirits."

The trees are ready to be collected from the council, who will also e-mail instructions to residents so they know how to plant them. Residents also receive a tree shelter if they take up the council's offer.

Bex Cross, Tree Warden for Hellesdon, has been ensuring the trees are ready for collection and the council intends to run the scheme again later in the year around November time if there is the demand for it.

*Editor's comment - Well done Bex. No, you*



*couldn't hide behind that mask. We all knew it was you! Another successful project by my Pocket Dynamo.*

*I believe that Bex is showing us all the way forward, using her imagination to find new places to plant trees and she should be congratulated for that.*

*Although the EDP failed to acknowledge the fact, the trees were supplied from our tree planting budget that is kindly provided by Broadland District Council. Thanks BDC ... and thanks again Bex!*

## Families' Anger at 'Damage and Devastation' Caused by Tree Felling at Sutton Cemetery

**D**ISTRESSED visitors to St Mary's cemetery say logs and wood chippings from eight mature trees cut down by Ashfield District Council were left dumped on graves, while there was also evidence of tyre marks across others. Furious Keith Laver and his sister Shirley Patrick say they were left horrified after visiting their parents William and Kathleen's grave.

**"I couldn't believe the damage and devastation in a cemetery on the weekend of Mothering Sunday. People were visibly shocked," said Keith, who is formerly of Sutton but now lives in Clipstone.**

"It shows a complete disregard for the sanctity of graves and disrespect for people's loved ones. Trees need maintenance, but there's no reason why logs couldn't be stacked on the road not left lying about on graves – and you could see heavy tyre tracks across some graves."

His sister described the scene as 'very

upsetting'. "My grandson, a baby, is buried by the back wall, there were tracks nearby and sawdust blown all over. We were shocked," she said.

John Smith, of Ashgate, claimed the work could also have an impact on wildlife. "They have gone in willy-nilly cutting down tall trees that have taken maybe 80 to 100 years to grow," he said. "It's a complete destruction of bird habitats, the birds can't back to nest there now."

The council has apologised to families who 'suffered upset and distress' and said the trees were cut down amid concerns they were damaging graves.

"Many parents who have tragically lost a

child have requested the council to act with regards to the trees," said the spokesman. "They were causing damage and grave areas have not been able to be maintained to a high enough standard. The council acted on these requests and will be making other improvements.

We are aware of the condition the site was left in over the weekend, and apologise to those who suffered upset and distress when visiting their loved ones' graves. We want to assure cemetery users that the council takes this matter seriously, and council officers are on site this morning to address the issue with the contractor involved."



# Anger at Felling of Trees Beside Railway Line

**W**RITING in the Eastern Daily Press, Stuart Anderson reported that the felling of trees along a railway embankment in Cromer has been slammed by a resident who labelled the clearance "wholesale destruction". The Rev Dr Mike Bossingham said he was shocked to see dozens of trees had been felled near the railway line between Hall Road and Roughton Road but Network Rail, which carried out the works, said managing trees and vegetation was important to keep passengers and track workers safe.

Dr Bossingham, who lives in Cromer, said: "I couldn't believe it when I saw it, I was quite shocked. At that stretch of the line it's really dramatic what they've done because it's a large embankment and it's been completely cleared. It has been done without any reference to local democracy - they've just wiped them out. I'm not aware of any tree planting they're doing elsewhere to compensate."

Dr Bossingham, who is also the deputy mayor of the town and secretary of the north Norfolk branch of the Green Party, said the felling sent the wrong message a time when people were being encouraged to do all they could to help the environment.



A Network Rail spokesperson said: "We're very aware of the impact that removing trees and vegetation can have on local communities and we understand that this can come as a surprise for people who've got used to rows of trees or hedges near their homes or workplaces."

"Trees and vegetation can obscure signals, touch live electrical equipment, blow or fall onto the tracks, undermine track foundations, or prevent our track staff having a safe place to

wait while trains pass. This work also helps reduce leaves falling onto the line, which can affect train acceleration and braking, delaying trains during the autumn months and increasing the risk of an accident happening."

Dr Bossingham also questioned whether the felling should have gone on during nesting season, which runs from February until August. Natural England recommends vegetation works be done outside this time.

Network Rail said: "It's not illegal to carry out vegetation management works during the nesting season, though we avoid doing so wherever possible to minimise our impact on wildlife. We only work during bird nesting season if it's necessary and, when we do so, use appropriate control measures to protect birds. We're continuing to carry out work on this line because of the safety risk the vegetation poses."

## HS2 Unveils 'Ambitious' Plans to Enhance Colne Valley Environment

*An article by Nathan Louis published on [www.watfordobserver.co.uk](http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk)*

**H**S2 has announced a new "ambitious" scheme designed to enhance the environment near two major tunnels it is constructing. Bosses of the multi-billion-pound high speed railway say they want to create 127 hectares of new chalk grassland, woodland, wood pasture and wetland habitats. Labelled the Colne Valley Western Slopes project, HS2 says the scheme is the "biggest single landscape and habitat creation project within HS2's Green Corridor programme".

The plans near West Hyde on the border of Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire includes the planting of almost 65,000 trees and shrubs of 32 species, with nearly 3.5km of new hedgerows.

Around 90 hectares of chalk grassland will be established, along with new green spaces, and around 4.5km of new footpaths, cycling routes and horse-riding routes.

HS2 says land that is initially needed for a major works compound to construct the Colne Valley Viaduct and ten-mile Chiltern Tunnels will be transformed through the re-use of existing soils and recycling of three million m<sup>3</sup> of chalk taken from the tunnel excavation, as well as concrete and limestone materials used in the construction process.

The project is being designed and delivered



by HS2's civils contractor Align, with full plans shared with the community last month.

HS2's environment director, Peter Miller, said: "This project forms a major part of HS2's Green Corridor programme to establish better connected, sustainable and biodiverse landscapes along the route of the new railway that will contribute substantially to HS2's carbon reduction target."

"It demonstrates HS2's approach to addressing many of the complex issues surrounding climate change and which are central to protecting our environment, and is a great example of how good design and planning can mitigate the effects of climate change."

Daniel Altier, project director from Align, added: "This innovative, multi-discipline project is designed to create a huge expanse of new grassland, connected woodland and wood pasture in the Colne Valley, helping to preserve declining or rare flora and fauna in the area, and providing a lasting legacy for biodiversity and local people."

"We are pleased to be collaborating on the design with Natural England, Hertfordshire and Middlesex Wildlife Trust, the Colne Valley Regional Park Panel, local authorities, and specialist soils experts."



# Tree Celebrates 30 Years of Tree Wardening

**I WAS** both delighted and honoured to join our Tree Warden for Reedham, Jo Parmenter, to plant a commemorative disease resistant elm *Ulmus* 'New Horizon' in Reedham Playing Field on 29 March 2021 to celebrate thirty years of the Tree Council's national Tree Warden Scheme. You may remember that, when asked for a suggestion for a suitable way of celebrating the anniversary, Jo suggested planting New Horizon.

I was so pleased when The Tree Council adopted Jo's suggestion and, whilst they would have liked to supply a tree for every Network, the cost was prohibitive so we had to settle for just thirty Networks (representing thirty years) receiving one.

As it was Jo's idea the Broadland Network was chosen to receive one and where else could it be planted but in Jo's parish?

It was a lovely morning when I met Jo for the planting. As I arrived with my spade, tree ties and timber for a guard, I saw Jo struggling with the tree in a wheelbarrow as she marched across the site to the spot she had already chosen.

It certainly was a sizeable specimen and appeared very healthy. We soon had it in its forever home and all that remained was to mount the commemorative plaque we had designed and purchased.

Both Jo and I hope you all approve. If you're passing, why not stop off to have a look at this tree that has so much meaning. Congratulations Tree Council ... and thank you so much for all you have achieved.





# Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Area News

## Broadland Tree Preservation Orders Served, Confirmed and Revoked

TPO Number	Address	Served	Trees Protected	Status
2020 No 1 (1303)	Robin Hill, 16 South Walsham Road, Acle	17/02/2020	All trees on site	Provisional
2020 No 3 (1305)	Land at Wood Green, <b>Salhouse</b>	09/03/2020	1 x Leyland cypress	Provisional
2020 No 4 (1306)	Land rear of 48 Spixworth Road, <b>Old Catton</b>	29/04/2020	T1 oak T2 deodar cedar T3 copper beech T4 yew	Provisional
2020 No 8 (1310)	Land south of Heydon Road, <b>Aylsham</b> .	08/10/2020	2 x oak	Provisional
2020 No 9 (1311)	Former Royal Norwich Golf Club, Drayton High Road, <b>Hellesdon</b>	16/10/2020	All trees of whatever species	Provisional
2020 No 10 (1312)	92 Links Avenue, <b>Hellesdon</b>	14/12/2020	T1 oak	Provisional
2021 No 1 (1314)	Land at Mokyll Croft, <b>Taverham</b>	14/03/2021	9 x sycamore 1 oak	Provisional

## Current Works to Trees Subject to a Tree Preservation Order and Section 211 Notifications for Works to Trees Within Conservation Areas

App No	Address	Cat	Species / Requested Works	Decision
20191982	Bircham Centre, Market Place, <b>Reepham</b>	211	T1 and T2 holly – fell.	31/12/2019
20201760	Land West of Abbey Farm Commercial Park, Church Street, <b>Horsham St Faith</b>	TPO	G1 5 x ash and sycamore and G19 1 x verge tree - full details provided within the attached cover letter.	21/09/2020
20201835	26 Rosemary Road, <b>Sprowston</b>	TPO	T11 Scots pine – fell. T22 common oak - reduce laterals by up to 2m; current width 7m, reduce to 5m. T27 & T35 common beech - crown raise to 4m. T36 common beech - reduce laterals from 9m to 5.5m wide. T37 common beech - reduce crown by 1.5m; current height and width 13m/6.5m, reduce to 10m/5m. T38 common beech - reduce laterals by 2m; current height and width 10m/8m, reduce to 7m/5m. T39 common beech - reduce crown by up to 2m; current height and width 12m/8m, reduce to 10m/6m. T40 common beech - crown raise to 5m. T41 copper beech - reduce crown by 1.5m, current height and width 14m/7m, reduce to 12m/5.5m. T44 common oak - reduce laterals by up to 2m; current width 7m reduce to 5m. T46 common oak - reduce laterals by 1m & width from 6 to 5m.	06/10/2020
20210016	6B Westbourne Road, <b>Coltishall</b>	TPO	T1 to T7 common limes <i>Tilia europea</i> - large and mature. Reduce by 2-3m over extended limbs from 8-9m to 6m in line with previous reduction points. Removal of deadwood and 10% crown thin. T8 common lime <i>Tilia europea</i> – fell. T9 to T14 common limes <i>Tilia europea</i> - pollard back to previous growth / pruning points, leaving some secondary canopy to provide screening for neighbouring property G2 - selective reduction of over-extended branches on group of 3 silver birch in order to maintain healthy shape and form and provide clearance from structures.	Split decision
20210100	1 Kingsdale, <b>Lingwood</b>	TPO	T1 oak - height 25m. Reduce longer laterals by 2-3m and remove larger diameter deadwood. Crown radius currently 7m. T2 oak - current height 25m. Tip back southern side by approx 2-3m and remove all damaged and larger diameter deadwood. Crown radius 6.5m.	Approved

20210112	1 The Stables, Hospital Road, <b>Little Plumstead</b>	TPO	T1 & T2 sycamore – fell. T3 sweet chestnut - reduce over-extended branch on south-east side of crown by 2m (from 7m to 5m) to reduce end loading.	Approved
20210147	16 Gowing Road, <b>Hellesdon</b>	TPO	T1 beech - reduce height by 20% from 10.5m to 8.5m and width 12m to 9.7m.	Split decision
20210148	101 The Paddocks, <b>Old Catton</b>	TPO	Oak - reduce overhanging branches by 1-2m.	20/01/2021
20210149	1 Manor Close, <b>Buxton</b>	TPO	Sycamore - reduce by 2-3m about 8 branches.	20/01/2021
20210151	101 Fakenham Road, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	T1 birch - reduce by 20% height from 12m to 9.7m and width from 7.5m 6m. Reduce large secondary limb by 50%, removing around 3.6m in length. T2 birch – fell.	Split decision
20210154	26 Mayton Avenue, <b>Frettenham</b>	TPO	T2 oak – fell.	Split decision
20210157	The Stables, Ranworth Road, <b>South Walsham</b>	TPO	T1 & T2 oaks -crown raise to 7m to allow traffic / plant to pass through without causing damage. Crown clean and deadwood. Reduce lower and middle lateral branches on northern side of crown from 7m to 5m to balance out crown, reduce risk of damage on adjacent buildings and residents' vehicles. (Branches have snapped and fallen on building in the past). T2 oak - dismantle and fell due to excessive rot in main union. One major limb has already failed, leaving two precarious limbs. The heartwood was found to be extremely dry and rotten. The residual wall has, in parts, failed. <i>Ganoderma</i> spp are present.	27/01/2021
20210167	First Taverham Scout Headquarters, Sandy Lane, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	T1 goat willow - pollard adjacent to neighbours' property. Current height approx 9m. T2 beech - cut back low branch overhanging neighbours' garage T3 sycamore - clear fallen tree. T4 cherry – fell. T5 oak - reduce lower branch overhanging doctors' surgery. T6 oak - reduce lower branch overhanging car park.	Approved
20210187	Holly Gate, Mill Hill, <b>Salhouse</b>	TPO	H1 holly - current height 8m, reduce and cut back hedge to 4m. T1 Eucalyptus - current height 16m, crown reduction to 7m.	Approved
20210188	50 Springfield Road, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	Silver birch – fell.	Withdrawn
20210189	21 Blacksmiths Way, <b>Old Catton</b>	YPO	T1 oak - trunk dbh 1.8m, canopy height 18m, canopy spread east-west and north-south 15m. Remove major deadwood overhanging garden and recreation ground. Reduce west facing upper canopy by 1-2m to leave east-west spread of 14m. Upper canopy limb south-west facing, approx 8m high has visible bark damage. Reduce by 1-2m to leave approx 2.5m.	Approved
20210191	1, 3 & 5 Mill Close, <b>Aylsham</b>	TPO	T0090 silver birch & T0092 rowan – fell. T0107 rowan & T0111 red oak - prune back from building for max 1.5m clearance from property reducing back to appropriate pruning/ growth points.	Approved
20210193	4 The Boulevard, <b>Thorpe End</b>	211	T1 oak: current height 25m approx, current width 26m approx, crown reduce by 3m and crown raise from 4m to 6m.	Split decision
20210199	7 Ashgrove, <b>Drayton</b>	TPO	T1 oak – fell.	Withdrawn
20210206	6 Library Close, <b>Blofield</b>	TPO	T1 hornbeam – fell.	Approved
20210207	177 Norwich Road, <b>Wroxham</b>	TPO	T3 & T4 lime – fell.	Approved
20210208	Blickling Hall, Blickling Road, <b>Blickling</b>	211	T1 oak - reduce height by half. T2 oak, T3 & T4 horse chestnut – fell.	Approved
20210211	Chapter II, Hemblington Road, <b>Strumpshaw</b>	TPO	T1 ash - remove lowest large limb that overhangs fruit trees and is growing into the adjacent sycamore. Currently fungus growing on underside of limb, which indicates white rot.	Approved
20210212	Meadowside, 29 Church Lane, <b>Wroxham</b>	211	Hedge formed by 5 conifers - reduce height from 2.4m.	Approved
20210213	19 Westwood Drive, <b>Hellesdon</b>	TPO	T1 oak - reduce lower branch to south-east at 4m over garden of adjacent property by 2.5m to leave remaining length of 5m.	Approved
20210218	Beaverswood, 9 Ringland Road, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	T1 sycamore - pollard at approx. 5-6m. T2 sycamore - pollard at approx. 5m. T3 lime – pollard at 5m. Tree previously pollarded. G1 limes - remove heavily leaning lime located within group near driveway entrance. Remove one low limb from another lime.	Approved
20210219	The Chestnuts, Low Road, <b>Freethorpe</b>	TPO	G1 4 x willow - current height 10-12m. Pollard to around 5m.	Approved
20210226	18 High Street, <b>Cawston</b>	211	T1 & T3 apple, T2 pear, G1 budlea x 2 – remove.	Approved
20210236	Beech Hill, 10 Plumstead Road, <b>Thorpe End</b>	211	Apple - old and overgrown. Remove old, diseased and crossing branches, thinning crown to reduce risk of wind damage.	Approved



20210244	11 Stanmore Road, <b>Thorpe St Andrew</b>	211	2 x yew – fell.	Approved
20210254	81 Moore Avenue, <b>Sprowston</b>	TPO	T1 oak - veteranize tree with coronet cuts at 8m.	10/02/2021
20210256	Crescent Lodge, 7 Lawn Crescent, <b>Thorpe End</b>	211	2 x horse chestnut - pollard back to previous points.	Approved
20210257	Spinney Lodge, 16 White Lion Road, <b>Coltishall</b>	211	T1, T5, T6 & T8 sycamore, T2 lime and T3, T4 & T7 oak - crown lift to no more than 4m and reduce branches back from utilities.	09/02/2021
20210259	Jewels Lane, Cawston Road, <b>Aylsham</b>	TPO	T1 oak - reduce to leave as pollard stem at approximately 4-5m.	Approved
20200269	Highfield, 30 Holman Road, <b>Aylsham</b>	211	Vehicles that are parked near this group of trees get covered in a sticky substance. Most likely Aphid droppings. There are 3 sycamores in a tight cluster. I recommend removing T1, leaving the other 2 trees alone.	Approved
20210280	16A Harvey Lane, <b>Thorpe St Andrew</b>	211	T73 lime – fell and re-plant.	Approved
20210282	Little Manor, 37 Chapel Street, <b>Cawston</b>	211	Conifer – large. Fell.	Approved
20210295	3 Mackintosh Close, <b>Blofield</b>	TPO	T1 oak - reduce crown by 2m by 'drop-crotching', crown lift to 5m and thin crown by 20% by removing deadwood and crossing or undesirable branches. Reduce current crown radius 10m to 8m. T2 oak – remove deadwood and reduce overextended branch growing on western portion of crown by 4m to parent growth point. Current length of branch 10m.	17/02/2021
20210301	Oaklands, 6 The Green, <b>Freethorpe</b>	TPO	Oak - shorten length of 2 lower lateral branches. Propose a light tip reduction to balance shape aesthetically.	17/02/2021
20210303	11 Oakfield Road, <b>Aylsham</b>	TPO	T1 silver birch - reduce current height of approx 14m by 2.5m with a lateral reduction of 2.5m and shaping.	17/02/2021
20210307	The Hollies, 13 Parkside Drive, <b>Old Catton</b>	TPO	Replanting has been recommended with one of the following: hornbeam, red robin, holly, Portuguese laurel, holly oak, <i>Acer</i> , or cherry. Replant with standard tree species <i>Leylandii</i> causes excessive shading for property numbers 13 (the applicant) and 11 (neighbour) and presents a lower amenity value than that of the proposed replanting. Specifics in terms of numbers, position and size can be provided by Crown Tree Services.	Approved
20210317	Field House, Heydon Road, <b>Aylsham</b>	TPO	Norway spruce, to right of T1 and T2 - uprooted in recent windstorm and now rests on adjacent Norway spruce. Fell.	Approved
20210320	Old School Chapel, 1 Banningham Road, <b>Aylsham</b>	211	Silver birch – fell.	Approved
20210329	Aylsham High School, Sir Williams Lane, <b>Aylsham</b>	211	T1 sycamore - reduce canopy by 2-3m. Current height is 15m. Final spread would be 12m.	Approved
20210331	22 Lower Street, <b>Salhouse</b>	211	T1 plum - current height 8m, current spread 11m. Remove extended limb over street. Reduce remaining crown to 4-5m. T2 conifer - current height 8m. Reduce by 2.5-3m to clear 'phone lines.	Approved
20210334	71A Plumstead Road, <b>Great Little Plumstead</b>	TPO	Oak overhanging garage, driveway and garden blocks almost all sunlight into garden. Any car parked under the tree suffers from tree sap, bird droppings, falling twigs/branches and acorns falling on it. I would like to discuss options for pruning the tree.	24/02/2021
20210336	Quercus, 229 Norwich Road, <b>Wroxham</b>	TPO	T1 oak - deadwood and raise crown over neighbouring garage. T2 lime - remove smaller stems to base to reduce loading on included unions. Pollard remaining larger stem to 4 to 5m. T3 larch - fell due to low amenity value.	Approved
20210339	80 Norwich Road, <b>Wroxham</b>	211	Fir – remove.	Approved
20210342	Knoll House, Blickling Road, <b>Aylsham</b>	211	T1 robinia - reduce by approx 4m. Current height 14m. T2 conifer - reduce to hedge. T3 chestnut & T4 lime - deadwood and remove any damaged branches. T5 chestnut - crown raise to 6m approx.	Approved
20210358	Fir Tree House, 86 Mill Road, <b>Blofield</b>	TPO	T1 <i>Acer</i> - fell due to conflict with neighbouring building. G2 ash, <i>Acer</i> & birch - crown lift to 4m and deadwood. T3 poplar – poor specimen. Fell. Bark necrosis at base of tree and evidence of declining health. Felling will benefit cherry growing alongside. T4 cherry - crown lift to 5.5m over highway and reduce branch growing over outbuilding on northern portion from 6m to 4m. T5 beech – crown lift to 5.5m over highway and 3.5m over garden. T6 holly - reduce height from 8m to 5m.	Approved

20210359	Strumpshaw Community Hall, Mill Road, <b>Strumpshaw</b>	TPO	Oak (T1) - Crown lift to provide 5m of clearance on southern portion by removing 2 lowest branches over-hanging allotments. Reduce lower lateral branches on southern portion of the crown by 1.5-2m (current southern radius 9m). Remove deadwood.	26/02/2021
20210362	The White House, 19 Cromer Road, <b>Aylsham</b>	211	T1 pine - reduce large limb overhanging neighbours. T2-5 pine - remove any over-weighted bows or reduce. T6 horse-chestnut - crown tidy, remove epicormic re-growth. T7 silver birch - reduce by 2-3m from current height of 10m. T8 plum - reduce to previous reduction.	Approved
20210364	Shooters Lodge, 20 Shooters Close, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	T1 oak - current height 16m, current spread 17m. Crown reduction of 1-2m to suitable growth points all over.	12/03/2021
20210365	24 Roedich Drive, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	Silver birch - fell.	Approved
20210367	The Old Stores, The Moor, <b>Reepham</b>	211	T1 ash - fell.	Approved
20210368	6 New Street, <b>Cawston</b>	211	T1 wild plum - fell.	Approved
20210375	1 The Courtyard, Fengate, <b>Marshall</b>	TPO	T5 ash - crown reduction by 2m and lateral spread by 2m leaving the crown at 16m and spread 13m.	15/03/2021
20210385	Muscat House, 171 Norwich Road, <b>Wroxham</b>	TPO	Conifer – fell.	Approved
20210386	Hammill House, 4 Barber Place, <b>Thorpe St Andrew</b>	TPO	G1 leylandii and T2 & G3 sycamore – fell.	02/03/2021
20210391	Midway, 21 Woodland Drive, <b>Thorpe End</b>	211	Self-sown small tree species unknown on edge of boundary at front of property – fell.	Approved
20210396	32 Holman Road, <b>Aylsham</b>	211	T1 sycamore - remove 2 x lowest lateral limbs over patio area. T2 sycamore - remove deadwood. T3 & T4 oak – fell. T5 oak - remove deadwood.	19/02/2021
20210398	Oak Cottage, 113 Yarmouth Road, <b>Thorpe St Andrew</b>	211	T1 beech - fell. T2 horse-chestnut - removal of co-dominant stem. T3 holly - crown lift to 3m. T4 red oak - crown lift to 4m. T5 hazel - re-pollard to 2m (current height 4m). T6 magnolia - remove or reduce branches conflicting with house.	03/03/2021
20210403	88 Charles Close, <b>Wroxham</b>	211	T1 oak - reduce height by 4m and tip back lowest lateral growing towards 90 Charles Close by 2m. T2 oak - tip back low laterals growing towards 90 Charles Close. T3 oak - reduce height from 22m by 3m and reduce high stem growing towards property by 4m. T4 oak - reduce laterals growing over 90 Charles Close by 3m. Reduce low limb growing over 20 The Avenue by 4m.	19/02/2021
20210404	10 Levishaw Close, <b>Buxton With Lamas</b>	TPO	1 x sycamore & 2 x beech - raise crown to 5m.	03/03/2021
20210409	89C Yarmouth Road, <b>Thorpe St Andrew</b>	211	T1, T3 & T4 Lawson cypress and T2 <i>Acer platanoides</i> – fell. T5 cherry - reduce to a pollard at 2m (current height 4m).	04/03/2021
20210410	15 Morgans Way, <b>Hevingham</b>	TPO	T1 oak - lift crown over garden to allow a minimum 5m clearance and reduce radial crown spread to the east from 8m to 4m. T2 oak - lift crown over garden to allow a minimum 5m clearance and reduce radial crown spread to the east from 10m to 5 m.	04/03/2021
20210411	6 Sylvan Way, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	G1 field maples - tip back laterals growing towards 5 Orchard Bank by 1.5 to 2m.	19/02/2021
20210415	Drayton Old Lodge, 146 Drayton High Road, <b>Drayton</b>	TPO	T1 & T2 Scots pine - fell and replace with same species.	Approved
20210424	26 Church Lane, <b>Wroxham</b>	211	T1 conifer – remove. T2 conifer - current height 6-7m, reduce by 1.5-2m.	Approved
20210430	151 Norwich Road, <b>Wroxham</b>	211	T1 beech – remove.	08/03/2021
20210433	Buregate House, 17 Church Lane, <b>Wroxham</b>	211	T1 - silver birch - height 12m, spread 6m. Fell due to proximity of house and location on steep slope.	09/03/2021
20210434	32 The Avenue, <b>Wroxham</b>	TPO	T84 green beech - 6m crown lift including removing horizontal limbs parallel to road. Current spread 9m from trunk on 3 sides. Reduce various horizontal limbs and rival lead stems by 4m. T85 copper beech - current spread from trunk: 7.5m to road, 7.8m towards house & 6.5m towards T88 across driveway. 6m crown lift and reduce horizontal limbs by 4m. T88 silver birch - current measurement from trunk centre ranging from 3.5 to 5.2m. Reduce two rival lead stems by 4m and clear deadwood and crossing limbs.	12/03/2021
20210437	26 Pond Lane, <b>Drayton</b>	TPO	Apple – fell.	25/02/2021



20210439	27 Saint Edmunds Road, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	T34 sycamore - crown thin northern canopy of by 20%.	Approved
20210433	16 Millgate, <b>Aylsham</b>	211	3 x conifers – fell.	10/03/2021
20210445	8 Mill Reach, <b>Buxton with Lamas</b>	TPO	G4 - 5 x Lombardy poplar in Nos 8, 10, 12 & 14 Mill Reach – fell. T22 - pollard to previous cuts. T34 - branches overhanging footpath to be cut for clearance. T23 & T24 - light crow thin to provide light and removal of branches over highway. T25 - removal of branches over highway.	10/03/2021
20210446	The Forge, The Street, <b>Oulton</b>	211	3 x poplar & 1 x apple – fell.	Approved
20210449	9 Parkside Drive, <b>Old Catton</b>	211	T1 Corsican pine - crown lift to 7m by removing 3 lowest major branches. A reduction of major lowest scaffold branch on southern side of crown growing over summer house and major branch growing towards ash on northern portion of crown by 3m. Remove deadwood. T2 ash - extensive ash dieback. Fell.	11/03/2021
20210450	20 Hermitage Close, <b>Acle</b>	TPO	T1 & T2 willow – fell due to basal decay.	11/03/2021
20210453	Trees overhanging footpath and NCP car park next to Brundall Train Station, Station New Road, <b>Brundall</b>	TPO	Common ash – remove.	11/03/2021
20210459	92 A Taverham Road, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	T1 sweet chestnut – fell.	12/03/2021
20210463	11 The Street, <b>Burgh and Tuttington</b>	211	T1 Lawson cypress approx 8 m tall, Norway spruce approx 4m tall and Norway spruce approx 10m tall – fell.	12/03/2021
20210475	2 Lime Tree Avenue, <b>Thorpe St Andrew</b>	TPO	T1 lime - height approx 25m. Crown clean and raise to approx 7m, reducing secondary branches back to primary growth point and only remove smaller branches back to primary growth point (trunk) if under 100mm in diameter. T2, T3, T4 & T5 lime - reduce height from approx 18m by approx 9m, reducing back to old reduction points. T6 lime - reduce height from approx 17.5m by approx 12.5 m to main break in fork to create pollard specimen. T7 beech - height approx 25m. Crown clean and raise to 6m, reducing secondary branches back to primary growth point and only remove smaller branches back to primary growth point (trunk) if under 100mm in diameter. T8 lime - reduce from approx 17m by 12m to main break in fork to create pollard specimen. T9 & T10 lime - pollard specimens height approx 12m. Reduce by 7m to previous pollard points.	15/03/2021
20210477	6 Oaklands, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	T1 Norway maple - height approx 9m with 5m spread all round. Reduce crown area by approx 1.5m max to leave a crown spread of 3.5ms and a height of approx 7.5m. T2 silver birch - height approx 7m with 4m spread all round. Reduce crown area by approx 1m max to leave a crown spread of 3m and height of approx 6m. T3 laburnum - height approx 4.5m with 3m spread all round. Reduce crown area by approx 0.5m max to leave crown spread of 2.5m and height of approx 4m.	15/03/2021
20210480	Dunelm House, 47B The Street, <b>Brundall</b>	TPO	T1 ash - remove top of tree to leave a trunk of approx 10m.	15/03/2021
20210482	The Old House, 15 Church Street, <b>Coltishall</b>	TPO	T1 – T7 – re-balance crowns by pruning 4-5m to suitable growth points from front of row of the beech trees.	15/03/2021
20210484	14 Barnby Road, <b>Badersfield</b> ,	TPO	T16 ornamental cherry – fell.	15/03/2021
20210485	The Old House, 15 Church Street, <b>Coltishall</b>	TPO	5 x ash – fell.	15/03/2021
20210494	8 The Avenue, <b>Wroxham</b>	211	T1 Douglas fir - 8m high. Fell. T2 & T3 oaks - 12m high. Remove deadwood and crown clean.	16/03/2021
20210497	43 College Close, <b>Coltishall</b>	211	Silver birch - crown lift to 4.5m, reduce by 2m from 16m to 14m.	Approved
20210498	Pinewood Cottage, 23 The Avenue, <b>Wroxham</b>	211	Fir - dismantle down to 2.5m, leaving as a habitat pole.	01/03/2021
20210499	7 Forster Close, <b>Aylsham</b>	TPO	Oak - reduce property side by 1-1.5m from 6 to 4.5m. Deadwood	01/03/2021
20210519	Apple Tree Cottage, 4 South Walk, <b>Thorpe End</b>	211	Cypress - reduce height of crown from 5.5m by 1-2m, shape canopy trim sides 1-2m. Prunus - remove 1-2m from top and sides, current height 7m. Sycamore - remove. Cherry - remove 1-2m from the top and sides, current height 6m. Conifer - reduce height from 7m to 2.5m.	23/03/2021
20210523	Dairy Farm Cart Lodge, Heydon Lane, <b>Heydon</b>	211	T1 horse-chestnut – fell.	Approved

20210524	1 Hodges Row, The Street, <b>Oulton</b>	211	T1 ash - reduce height from 14m to approx 11.5m and re-shape. T2 wild cherry - fell.	Approved
20210538	Victoria Plantation, Taverham Road, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	T1 oak - crown raise to 5m over garden of 20 Victoria Road. T2 sycamore - raise to 5m over garden of 32 St Edmunds Rise.	22/03/2021
20210551	18 A Stanmore Road, <b>Thorpe St Andrew</b>	TPO	T1 Irish yew, T2 <i>Cryptomeria</i> , G4 & G5 Lawson cypress - poor specimens, fell. T3 Atlantic cedar - crown lift to 3m and reduce crown by 2m.	24/03/2021
20210554	Halvergate House, Squires Road, <b>Halvergate</b>	211	T1 oak - remove deadwood over lane. Raise low branches over lane to 5.5m. T2 oak - selectively reduce end loading of dominant, re-grown branches by approx 2m, shape into natural form. T3 oak - remove re-formed deadwood over lane. T4 oak - remove medium & large re-formed deadwood over lane. T7 oak - remove previously reduced long dead limb at 7.5m above ground level to east over lane. Raise low branches over highway to 5.5m. T8 oak - selectively reduce loading on branches attached near to historic storm damage wounds. T12 oak - clean out crown of dead, crossing, suppressed and apparent structurally weak branches. Remove damaged branch from lower crown to the north-west.	10/03/2021
20210556	Land at entrance to Goulders Drive and Mileham Drive.	TPO	T1 oak at entrance of Goulders Drive next to No1 - reduce limb that extends to No 1 by 4m to leave 8m. T2 holly & hazel. Holly - reduce by 2m to leave 5m. Hazel - raise the low laterals over path to make canopy more upright. T3 - approx 7 ash stems to be removed adjacent to 45 Mileham Drive.	10/03/2021
20210559	St Michaels Recreation Ground, Cawston Road, <b>Aylsham</b>	TPO	T12, T14 & T19 oak - remove hanging branches. Oak & Scots pine – fell. T15 oak - remove hanging branches. Re-balance crown if required. CP1 sycamore - crown lift to approx 4m. T16 willow - pollard to height of other stem on tree to avoid limb tear-out in decay area.	10/03/2021
20201561	6 Mill Pightle, <b>Aylsham</b>	TPO	Holly encroaching garden from Mill Lane and touching garage. Cut back by approx 2m to ensure no damage is caused to property.	25/03/2021
20210562	The Old Pump House, 2 Holman Road, <b>Aylsham</b>	211	T1 maple - reduce height by 2m from 14 to 12m and crown thin by 25%. T2 hawthorn - reduce height by 1.5m from 9 to 7.5m and trim sides to suit. T3 holly - reduce height by 1.5m from 7 to 5.5m and shape/trim sides to match.	11/03/2121
20210563	9 Stanmore Road, <b>Thorpe St Andrew</b>	211	T1 & T3 conifer - remove and replace with a silver birch. T2 conifer - remove and replace with an <i>Acer</i> or <i>Magnolia</i> . T4 horse chestnut & T6 holly x 3 – remove.	12/03/2021
20210565	33 Barnby Road, <b>Badersfield</b>	TPO	T72 weeping willow situated in rear garden - remove / reduce diseased branches, remove dead wood and selectively reduce any end-weighted / over-extended lateral side branches on all points of the peripheral crown by up to 3m back to sub-lateral growth point whilst retaining the natural weeping form of the tree. Crown lift the tips of tertiary branches to give up to 2.5m clearance from ground. Work was last undertaken circa 5 years ago approved under application number 20151682. Tree has grown significantly since then once more becoming of overly dominating stature for situation, resulting in excessive shading and increased risk of harm to humans enjoying their homes, property and infrastructure. Owners desire to bring tree back into a more manageable habit for its position in their rear garden, replicating the work previously undertaken, to preserve the tree so it can be enjoyed for many years to come.	25/03/2021
20210566	Land adjacent to Village Hall, Mill Road, <b>Strumpshaw</b>	TPO	T11 & T12 pine - reduce crown from dwelling to give 3m min. T15 beech - reduce back to give 3-5m clearance. T24 Norway maple - reduce back to give 3-4m clearance. T25 larch - reduce back lower limb to give 3-4m clearance. T33 larch - remove wind-throw tree leaning into ??? T35 beech – remove. T38 (dead) - reduce/fell to safe height. T55 ash - reduce limb over allotment.	15/03/2021



20210573	Former Royal Norwich Golf Course, Drayton Road, Norwich.	TPO	Works to trees to allow for installation of gas main. T1 first main east branch - remove central branch of trifurcated union. Tip up minor secondary/ tertiary branches on others. T2 - remove branch located on south of stem that extends east and remove dead branch immediately above it. T3 - remove first branch east stem approx 10cm. T4 - remove 2 lowest branches east, reduce third by 2-3m. T5 remove first branch and remove first secondary on next branch up. T6 - minor secondary leader - remove first secondary branch and lower fork of next branch up. Main stem remove first 2 small branches on east of stem. Works also to include pre-emptive root pruning to be carried out with the use of an air pick/ spade to a depth of 1m to enable machine excavation for gas main.	26/03/2021
20210574	14 Barnby Road, <b>Badersfield</b>	211	T16 ornamental cherry – fell.	15/03/2021
20210575	The Old House, 15 Church Street, <b>Coltishall</b>	211	5 x ash – fell.	15/03/2021
20210579	92A Taverham Road, <b>Taverham</b>	TPO	T2 sycamore - fell due to imminent danger of falling. Following a visit from an arborist, we have been advised that this tree is very dangerous and at threat of falling due to its poor condition. It has a large crevice, shown in the photos, and is showing signs of hollowing/decay at the base, also as shown in the photos.	29/03/2021
20210583	The Manor House, The Street, <b>Halvergate</b>	TPO	T1&T2 oaks - clean crowns of dead wood and raise epicormic growth to first main unions. T3 & T4 silver birch and T5 maple - fell as small and suppressed by oak tree. T6 oak - clean crown of dead wood. T7 sycamore - reduce side towards house by about 2m. T8 horse-chestnut - remove epicormic growth and clean crown. T9 horse-chestnut - reduce lower canopy to clear 'phone wires and lower branches heading towards house.	29/03/2021
20210584	The Cottage, 14 Upper Street, <b>Salhouse</b>	TPO	T1 spruce - crown lift to 4m to provide clearance for surrounding buildings. T2 hawthorn - reduce from 6 to 3m pollard to alleviate likelihood of failure and impact on garden and surrounding buildings.	29/03/2021
20210586	8 The Avenue, <b>Wroxham</b>	TPO	T2 & T3 oaks 12m high - deadwood removal and crown cleaning of required branches.	16/03/2021

**Explanatory Notes:**

- 1) App No is the unique Broadland District Council Planning Application number allocated to the application to carry out work and is the number by which progress of the application may be traced. Any comment, objection, support or request for information should quote this number.
- 2) Address is the address to which the application for work relates. In other words, it is the address where the trees for which the application is made are located.
- 3) Cat (ie Category) denotes the type of application. TPO = works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order; or  
211 = Section 211 Notifications for Works to Trees Within Conservation Areas
- 4) Species / Requested Works is the species of the tree(s) concerned and details of the work proposed. A reference such as T1, T2 or G1 may also appear and that is simply a reference to the tree(s) on the TPO, Conservation Order or simply on the application.
- 5) Decision is either the date on which the application was received by Broadland District Council or the actual decision.
- 6) This list is not intended to be a definitive list of all the relevant details. The reader should always refer to the specific application on the Broadland District Council "Planning Explorer" at <https://secure.broadland.gov.uk/Northgate/PlanningExplorer/GeneralSearch.aspx> to view the application or read the Council's decision.