

Wiltshire Tree Warden News

January 2013

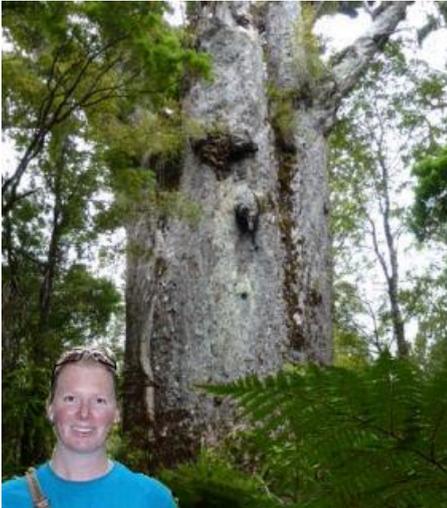
www.wiltshiretreewardens.co.uk

Issue No.7

Message from Vicky

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Vicky and an ancient Kauri tree in New Zealand!

Happy New Year!

As I return from sunnier climates to a country gripped in the midst of winter, I ponder on what this year may have in store for our wonderful treescape. With the recent announcement of Ash dieback and the threat this may pose on our landscape I was thrilled to hear of all the successful tree planting that had taken place and the success of many Diamond Jubilee applications that has and will help bring together so many communities in such uncertain times. You are all a credit to Wiltshire and should be very proud of your achievements. Here's hoping 2013 is set to be just as successful with more communities actively involved with tree planting across the county.

The Countryside Team is now on Twitter. Our Senior Ranger, Leo Wirtz, is tweeting all sorts of useful and relevant information in bite-sized chunks (including ash dieback info), so do consider signing up and following us on <https://twitter.com/#!/wiltscountry>.

A Wedding!

Malmesbury – Jenny Simmonds

Malmesbury Tree Warden Jenny Simmonds married childhood sweetheart Andrew Pearson on 4 August, in the town hall in Malmesbury. Jenny works full time for English Heritage and Andrew is a science teacher at a local secondary school. Jenny has been Tree Warden in Malmesbury for the last 18 months and has been enjoying getting to know the local community through her work and even the Mayor of Malmesbury came to wish them well!



Calstone Wellington Jubilee Woods

Calne Without - Kevin Last



Families arriving for the planting

The application for a Woodland Trust Community Tree Planting Pack was successful. This allowed Calstone Wellington Access Group to press forward with their Jubilee Wood Project to create a permanent tribute to the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for the enjoyment of the community for years to come.

On Friday 9 and Saturday 10 November, over fifty supporters of all ages turned out to plant the 105 young saplings consisting of thirty Rowan and fifteen each of Hawthorn, Hazel, Silver Birch, Wild Cherry

and Dogwood on land kindly provided by a long standing resident to create Calstone Wellington Jubilee Woods. The Royal Oak sapling grown from an acorn gathered from a royal estate was also planted.



Following the Friday planting session there were fireworks and everyone enjoyed delicious homemade soups and hotdogs provided by the Access Group. Details of those who took part in the planting were recorded and each will receive a certificate. As well as a commemorative bench, there are plans to erect a plaque naming those who took part.

Of course the planting of the woods is only the beginning. It will take a number of years for the woods to become established but in just a few years these new saplings will provide natural colour and shade for people and help support local wildlife. During this time there will be the need for ongoing maintenance, pruning and perhaps additional planting by Access Group supporters to ensure that Calstone Wellington Jubilee Woods is maintained for the future enjoyment of the whole Community.

Pat and Sandy Maundrell with their dog Taffy planting the Royal sapling

Jubilee Meadow

Tisbury - Debbie Carter

A seven acre field was given to the Parish by the Fonthill Estate as compensation for selling another field for the development of 90 new houses. The developer, CG Fry, had not reached the right environmental level at the Development to satisfy Planning Regulations so offered to supply and plant a hedge, copse and orchard. Plans have now been approved by the Parish Council for these and CG Fry is paying for most of the plants and the planting. We have also received a free pack of 420 Wild Harvest plants from the Woodland Trust which will be incorporated in the hedge and, in addition, the Parish Council has paid for eight old Wiltshire variety apple trees (from www.heritagefruittrees.com) for the new orchard. The plant nursery, appointed by the developer, has started to mark out the area and hopes to start planting shortly. The local Primary School has been asked to help with the planting and other members of the community will also be invited.

Swindon - Adrian & Andrea Downing



Green-fingered residents in the Croft area improved their environment and marked the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by planting trees on the Evelyn Street Railway Embankment on Friday 16 and Saturday 17 November.

The 60 trees mark the 60 years of the Queen's reign and were planted down the path which represents the original route of the railway track from Evelyn railway bridge along the embankment to Pipers Way. The children got enormous pleasure out of the planting; each child was photographed with their own individual tree and the school will continue to take an interest in and look after their trees. They all appreciated their own bulb kit to take home.

[More information](#)

Fovant - Jenny Bickerton

On Sunday 25 November 2012, an Acer griseum was planted by Fovant Parish Council in the grounds of Clays Orchard to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The planting took place during National Tree Week and, despite the rain, there was a good turnout.

Eloise Gevaux, aged two, admiring the new tree

An English Oak awarded by the Tree Council is being planted by The Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire on the cricket pitch at East Farm in Fovant on Sunday 24 March. The Shaftesbury Town Silver Band will be playing from 10.30 am and refreshments will be provided. All are welcome!

Upton Scudamore - John Spencer



Despite torrential rain, a commemorative tree from the Tree Council was planted on 31 December 2012. More than fifty people joined in - a great turnout from this small village and a thoroughly enjoyable occasion.

*A walk round Stourhead with Alan Power, the Estate Manager
Wednesday 24 October 2012*



This walk with Alan Power was organised by Shane Verrion, the Salisbury Tree Officer. Not only was this a wonderful time of year to visit Stourhead with the autumn colours, it was an inspiring and fascinating opportunity to learn about the planning and maintenance of the rare and ancient trees on the estate. We also saw the tallest oak in England!

More pictures on the [website](#)

Useful information

A grant of £1.9 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has been awarded to Westonbirt Arboretum to restore the Grade I registered landscape currently used for visitor car parking and a new “welcome” building is to be constructed. Work began in this month. Opening times and the access to the arboretum’s tree collection will be unaffected. For more information [click here](#).

[The Tree Council](#) has created a useful slideshow of the symptoms of *Chalara fraxinea* (the ash dieback fungus), which should help you spot the disease. You can also download an annotated pictorial guide. If you believe you have spotted ash dieback in your area, please report it using the Forestry Commission's online reporting form. You can also find more information about the disease, and how it is being tackled, on its website.

[Tree Sisters](#)

You may be interested in finding out more about this charity which is planning to tackle climate change through a massive programme of global reforestation by engaging women from all over the world. The aim is to encourage women to recognize their own worth and to start taking actions that could make a difference to the world they live in by donating so that millions of trees can be planted and protected. The programme is initially focusing on the tropics where trees grow fast and thus help sustain local communities. The charity will be working with [The Green Belt Movement](#), [Project GreenHands](#) and [The Pachamama Alliance](#). For more information and as to why the focus is on women, click on the following links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lhx25sFYdTk>

<http://www.facebook.com/treesisters>

Free Events for Wiltshire Tree Wardens - Dates for the diary

Spaces for all events will be limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Contact Rights of Way & Countryside Team, Environment Services, County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 8JD

Tel: 01225 718647 vicky.roscoe@wiltshire.gov.uk

Saturday 2 February 10am – 12.30pm

Wiltshire College Lackham, Lacock, nr Chippenham

Winter Tree Identification - introducing the skills needed to identify trees native to the British Isles as well as common non-native species in winter conditions. Meet outside the main house.



Saturday 2 March 10am -3pm

Rowde, nr Devizes

Winter Pruning of Fruit Trees - Expert tutor Richard Cripps will be leading a hands-on training course to cover the basics of grafting, along with budding, root stocks, scions, vegetative growth, recognising fruit buds, pruning and pests and disease.

Date in May to be confirmed

Neston Park nr Corsham

Walk in the Woods –with Bill Ayres (Ayres Forestry). Details to be confirmed

For up to date information on future events, funding available, useful links, current diseases affecting our trees, and past activities of Tree Wardens, go to www.wiltshiretreewardens.co.uk