

SteYning For Trees Help Fight Climate Change



Welcome to our July 2026 Newsletter

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THE TEMPERATURE UNDER A CANOPY OF TREES CAN BE UP TO 8% COOLER than the surrounding air. Not only is this delivered by the **shade** but also by **transpiration** through the leaves. Those who have planted **plenty of trees** in their streets through **SFT** have been telling us how **grateful** they are for these in the **SWELTERING TEMPERATURES** we have been having. We have planted 121 verge trees and only lost 3.

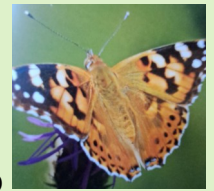
What an **excellent job** of looking after them you have all done **watering** in droughts and when asked by us. The **SFT watering contractor** has also been doing a **great** job, often in the middle of the night looking after those in bigger groups. We have been working on this now for **7 years**, anticipating the effects of **global warming** which seems to have arrived so much earlier than we all thought. Groups including the [Royal Horticultural Society](#) have been calling for action by the Government to **maximise "green infrastructure"**. UK cities must be **cooled** with more **trees, grass and plants** in the face of growing **heatwave** danger. This has been the policy in **Seville**, one of the hottest cities in Europe. Cooling **street trees** are planted **everywhere** and a **large park** has been given over to a **forest** of trees. This all contributes to a **remarkable cooling** effect. Along with the wonderful ornamental fountains.



This chimes well with the **Woodland Trust's** latest campaign [Trees For All](#). They are **investing £10 million** over the next **5 years** on urban trees in towns and cities, particularly in **deprived** areas where people are missing out and **inequalities** are occurring contributing to **flooding, air pollution** and therefore **ill-health**. Darren Moorcroft, Chief Executive of the Woodland Trust says, "**This is not just about making people feel good, it is a real injustice and could be affecting people's quality of life**". We think we can all relate to that, particularly when it goes on to say about the **DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF SUMMER HEAT**.



We are so **glad** to be able to work with **Steyning Grammar School's** excellent **teaching** staff on a **WHOLE DAY of NATURE CENTRED ACTIVITIES** this year so ably organised by them in their own grounds full of **tall trees**.



This year we bought for the pupils **Butterfly Gardens** so they were able to witness the **full cycle of metamorphosis** from **caterpillars** through **chrysalis** to **butterflies**. Helping them to appreciate the wonder and joy of **nature**. Lots of other activities and identification **challenges** are being organised for them including **pond** discoveries. These **young people** represent our **hope** for the **future** and how well they are stepping up to the mark with their excellent teachers. Their wonderful **debate** with Dame EJ Milner-Gulland, Prof. of Biodiversity from Oxford University and former pupil of SGS at the **Festival** was **fascinating** and **impressive** to listen to. **SFT** has a **recording** of this if you want to **borrow** it.



Sussex
Wildlife Trust

A quote from [Sussex Wildlife Trust](#),

"**Six NATIVE TREES will absorb and store a TONNE OF CARBON DIOXIDE** over their lifetimes. They are a wonderful **food source** for wildlife from **spring** BLOSSOM providing NECTAR to **autumn** nuts and berries for creatures to **feast** on and **store** over the **winter** months". Thus providing **food** and **nectar** all the year round every year for **years to come**.

Amazing numbers of **butterflies**, **bees**, **hoverflies**, insects are busily inhabiting Mouse Cottage garden with its continuing long grass and supportive flower planting, plus **foxes** and **hedgehogs**—a **safe haven**.

STOP PRESS: Bumblebees are in **crisis**. A third of the UK's 24 species are on the brink of **extinction** and the HOT WEATHER has made matters worse says the [BUMBLEBEE CONSERVATION TRUST](#). They say the **loss** of **meadows** and **hedgerows** leave the bumblebees **struggling** to find enough food and shelter.

TOP TIP: They recommend planting **bumblebee friendly plants** in your garden, especially **marjoram** (oregano). It is a perennial which we have at Mouse Cottage, coming up every year to help the **beleaguered** bumblebees.



Remember: Trees are front-line warriors in the fight against climate change.

If you have any enquiries or suggestions please,

Email us at SteyningForTrees@gmail.com

or visit our website at steyningfortrees.com

or ring us on 01903 816726

Any donations, large or small, will be greatly appreciated and will assist in enabling us to continue our important work. Please make any contributions to the bank account below.

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29th July 2026