**PRESS RELEASE: Exciting project sees more than 100 trees planted in Brighton**

***Forgotten Places: Greening Coastal Towns and Cities***

More than 100 trees have been planted across the city of Brighton & Hove as part of an exciting project aiming to increase urban tree cover in coastal areas.

Since the start of the year, CPRE Sussex has been organising community tree planting events as part of the Trees for Cities’ Forgotten Places project.

Planting has taken place in Bevendean, Woodingdean, Portslade and on the Bristol Estate.

Jenni Cresswell from CPRE Sussex said: “We have been working flat out with the council’s Arboriculture Team to plant all 102 of our trees as part of this exciting project.”

The Bristol Estate planting was hosted by BELTA to support The Queen’s Green Canopy Project.

Juliet Smith, The Queen’s Deputy Lord Lieutenant, opened the day where Trees for Cities and Connick Tree Care staff supported the planting of a beautiful hawthorn and a hornbeam – two of 12 trees being planted on the estate.

Other trees include stone pine, elm, Callery pear and a stunning Gleditsia.

Bevendean was the location for an ambitious tree planting session with corporate sponsors Metlife.

They put their best digging foot forward, not only funding 18 trees but also sending six staff to plant 12 trees in one day, supported by Mark Gappa from BHCC.

Redwoods, birch and aspens were planted as part of a majestic planting scheme devised by Penny Hudd from CPRE Sussex.

“We are not just doing this because trees are lovely and picturesque,” said Penny. “They also have an important role to play in the local ecosystem and helping to ensure our city is a healthier place for everyone to live.”

Tree planting in Woodingdean received support from the Woodingdean Wilderness Group and local residents are now the proud custodians of 46 trees including Callery pears, crepe myrtle, stone pine and alders.

At Portslade, a mini community training event to plant two final trees out of 19 in the area took place in the sunshine at the end of March.

However, the project doesn’t end there. Partner organisation the Field Studies Council has produced a Tree ID Guide with input from tree experts in Brighton and will produce two more before the year is out.

The first guide was taken up by 13,065 people with Brighton residents ordering the highest number out of seven participating locations across the UK.

Alongside the printed guides, the Field Studies Council is also running three Tree ID training courses throughout the year.

Visit [field-studies-council.org/free-tree-training](https://www.field-studies-council.org/free-tree-training/) to book your place.

In 2021, CPRE Sussex’s Plant your Postcode volunteers, supported by Brighton & Hove City Council’s Arboriculture team and Hove Civic Society, made a successful bid to take part in Forgotten Places.

In total, the project, run by Trees for Cities, will see £1.2m of funding to plant 55,000 trees across seven coastal towns and cities.

The funding was developed by Defra as part of the Government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund. It is being delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England, the Environment Agency and Forestry Commission.

Trees for Cities is working with the Field Studies Council, Treeconomics, Forest Research and local partners to deliver this project. The project is also part of The Queen’s Green Canopy

Forgotten Places is one of several CPRE Sussex-led initiatives to improve the environment across the county. Find out how you could get involved at [cpresussex.org.uk/get-involved](https://www.cpresussex.org.uk/get-involved/).

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For press inquiries and interview opportunities contact sheena.journalism@gmail.com.

**Notes for editors:**

**About CPRE Sussex**

CPRE Sussex is the local branch of CPRE, working for a countryside that’s rich in nature, accessible to everyone and responding to the climate emergency. We want sustainable, vibrant communities in the Sussex countryside. We believe that good land-use planning is the unsung hero of environmental protection. It can help slow the growth in road traffic, encourage urban regeneration, curb urban sprawl, protect the beauty and tranquillity of the countryside and safeguard wildlife habitats.

**About Defra – Green Recovery Challenge Fund**

The Green Recovery Challenge Fund is supported using public funds and delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England and the Environment Agency. This project is funded by the Government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund. The fund was developed by Defra and its Arm's-Length Bodies. It is being delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England, the Environment Agency and Forestry Commission.

**About Trees for Cities**

Trees for Cities is the only UK charity working at a national and international scale to improve lives by planting trees in cities. We get stuck in with local communities to cultivate lasting change in their neighbourhoods – whether it’s revitalising forgotten spaces, creating healthier environments or getting people excited about growing, foraging and eating healthy food.

**About the Field Studies Council**

Field Studies Council (FSC) is an environmental education charity committed to helping people, discover, explore, understand and be inspired by the natural world. Its network of centres provides day and residential courses for all ages from young children to retired adults from schools and communities throughout the UK. They also run a range of natural history courses both online and across the UK to encourage adults to take their first steps and continue their learning in the environmental sector. It also reaches many others through its publications and community-based programmes and is the leading UK provider of identification guides.

**About Treeconomics**

Treeconomics works to understand how trees improve our urban spaces, making them better places to live. We aim to demonstrate that trees are part of the solution for many of our urban problems – be that air pollution, climate adaptation, crime, or manifold others. With towns and cities housing the largest populations of people, our Urban Forests hold the greatest potential to improve health and wellbeing, and stand at the frontline against Climate Change.

**About Forest Research**

Forest Research is Great Britain’s principal organisation for forestry and tree-related research and is internationally renowned for the provision of evidence and scientific services in support of sustainable forestry.

**About The Queen’s Green Canopy**

The Queen’s Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty’s Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to “Plant a Tree for the Jubilee”. Everyone from individuals to Scout and Girlguiding groups, villages, cities, counties, schools and corporates will be encouraged to play their part to enhance our environment by planting trees during the official planting season between October to March. Tree planting will commence again in October 2022, through to the end of the Jubilee year. With a focus on planting sustainably, the QGC will encourage planting of trees to create a legacy in honour of The Queen’s leadership of the Nation, which will benefit future generations.

As well as inviting the planting of new trees, The Queen’s Green Canopy will dedicate a network of 70 Ancient Woodlands across the United Kingdom and identify 70 Ancient Trees to celebrate Her Majesty’s 70 years of service.

https://queensgreencanopy.org/

