**PICTURES: Hedgerow Heroes plant 14,800 new trees in Sussex**

***Volunteers plant nearly 3km of new hedgerow, creating vital wildlife corridors.***

Teams of dedicated Hedgerow Heroes have planted 14,800 new trees on a farmland site on the Manhood Peninsula, West Sussex.

Led by CPRE Sussex and the Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group, volunteers created nearly 3km of vital new hedgerow between November and March.

The scheme also gave local primary schools the opportunity to learn about the wildlife on their doorstep.

**CPRE Sussex director Paul Steedman said:** "Hedgerows create vital wildlife corridors, lock up carbon and create beautiful landscapes. On the low-lying, windswept land of the Manhood Peninsula, they provide vital shelter for a huge variety of wildlife and plants. I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who joined us throughout the winter to help create this fantastic new stretch of hedgerow."

**Jane Reeve, Project Leader at the Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group said:** "We survived some pretty wild weather and managed to plant 14,800 trees creating nearly 3 kilometres of new hedgerows. This is phenomenal and will make such a difference to the Ham area of Sidlesham and across the open fields bordering Pagham Harbour.

"I must mention my Tuesday tree planting club who have come out over the last 3 years and committed to tree planting.  Thank you, couldn't have done this without you guys and all of our volunteers!"

The Sussex project is part of a nationwide CPRE Hedgerow Heroes initiative running across England.

Click here to find out more about volunteer opportunities with CPRE Sussex.

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For press inquiries and interview opportunities call Nancy Duckels on 07795 551852.

**Notes for editors:**

**About CPRE Sussex**

cpresussex.org.uk

Campaign to Protect Rural England Sussex

CPRE Sussex is shaping a greener future for Sussex. Our priorities are:

- Beautiful landscapes, rich in nature and greener towns and cities
- Countryside and green spaces which are accessible to all, enriching lives and health
- Sustainable development for thriving communities
- Effective responses to the climate emergency

We engage with decision makers, influencing them and challenging them to protect the Sussex countryside and green spaces. We inform on environmental issues and empower individuals and communities with robust evidence to defend and enhance the green spaces they love. We believe in collaborating with others to ensure a greener future for our county. We research and provide advice on planning issues. Together we can shape a greener future for Sussex.