

100
YEARS



Campaign to Protect
Rural England
Sussex

PICTURES: Crowds gather for Tribute to the Trees

Sussex Tree Festival begins with celebration of trees in Preston Park, Brighton.

Tree lovers of all ages gathered in Brighton on Sunday (May 24) for a Tribute to the Trees.

Led by author and presenter Rev Owen Jones, the celebration in Preston Park officially kick-started the Sussex Tree Festival 2026.

There was music, poetry, a tree hunt, crown and garland making and a celebratory children's parade.

Nancy Duckels, CPRE Sussex campaigns and communications manager, said: "On a fantastic sunny day in Brighton we had some lovely conversations with people about the value of trees and why they are so important in our city. We are very grateful to the Friends of Preston Park for helping to organise the event, as well as the performers who did an amazing job. It was also great to speak to so many people about our street tree planting project, Plant Your Postcode."

The Tree Festival continues until Saturday, June 7, with events taking place across Sussex.

[View the full programme here.](#)

There are also just two days left to enter the 'I love this tree because...' photo competition.

The competition is open to photographers of all ages and closes at 11.59pm on Thursday, May 28.

[Find out more and enter here.](#)

-ENDS-

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

About CPRE 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.