

Planting Our Future

Celebrating a Season of Growth



This planting season marks a remarkable milestone for us, with the planting of our 100,000th tree .

As the season draws to a close, we are thrilled to share the incredible progress and accomplishments we have made through our tree planting initiatives. With your support and dedication, we have significantly contributed to the enhancement of our local environment and the preservation of green spaces for generations to come.

We take immense pride in reaching this momentous achievement, made possible through the enthusiasm of our volunteers and the invaluable support of our partners. Let's take a closer look at the incredible progress we've made this season. The planting season began in November, and since then, we've been actively expanding our urban tree coverage throughout the borough. Our efforts have been particularly concentrated in wards with lower canopy tree cover, aiming to enhance green spaces and promote a healthier environment for all residents.

Hedgerow Habitats for schools



At Planting our Future, we actively collaborate with schools to raise awareness about the numerous benefits of planting trees and hedgerows. By engaging with schools, we aim to foster an understanding of how these green spaces contribute to our overall happiness and health. Trees and hedgerows offer a myriad of advantages, including enhancing wellbeing, bolstering biodiversity, cooling the air, and absorbing harmful air pollutants.

This season, we've had the privilege of collaborating with six schools to plant over 3,000 trees, enriching their environments and promoting healthier surroundings. Pupils from Tudor Grange Academy enthusiastically planted 500 whips, while Langley Primary students cultivated a vibrant fruit orchard. At Windy Arbor, the Eco Warriors dedicated an hour to crafting their own hedgerow. Notably, during the latest tree planting event at Sharmans Cross School, every child in the school participated in planting their own hedgerow, further emphasising our collective commitment to a greener future.



Community Planting Events

There has been no let-up in the steady stream of rain so far this year, making for a very wet and muddy planting season, but it hasn't stopped our volunteers from turning up in their waterproofs and wellies to get stuck in.

Saint Columban's

In early February, a remarkable assembly of over 100 individuals, including 45 students and their mentors from 21 different schools, Columban missionaries,

staff and their families, parishioners from Olton Friary parish, refugees from the Hope Garden project, and employees from MACE, gathered at St. Columban's. Over the course of four days, this diverse group united to plant over 2000 trees in the historic grounds of St. Columban's, formerly owned by the Birds Custard family. It was a heartening display of community collaboration and environmental stewardship.



Dorridge Cricket Club

In February, on a day that was slightly less drizzly, a dedicated team of 15 volunteers from E.ON diligently planted a total of 800 young saplings to establish a hedgerow around their new cricket pitch. DCC (Dorridge Cricket Club) has recently secured funding from Sports England to develop a second pitch on their site, and the newly planted hedgerow will serve as a valuable natural asset. It will offer numerous benefits, including wind breaks, shelters, fence lines, wildlife havens, and noise barriers.

Barston Lane

Volunteers have recently planted 100 trees on a picturesque piece of land adjacent to the canal in Barston. A team of approximately 30 individuals from Lloyds Banking Group enthusiastically joined the effort earlier in March, contributing to the planting of native trees on the site. This new woodland serves as a vibrant green corridor, connecting habitats and fostering a thriving environment for local wildlife.



Planting our Future scoops another award!



We're thrilled to announce the culmination of our planting season with yet another prestigious accolade!

The Planting our Future campaign, which took root in 2020 with a mission to plant 250,000 trees by 2030 through local collaborations with schools, residents, businesses, and community groups, has been honoured with the public sector prize at The Natural Environment Awards (NEA).

This recognition from the NEA underscores our dedication to preserving, enriching, and revitalising the natural

environment in the Solihull.

We are immensely proud to have been acknowledged for our efforts in inspiring residents to actively participate in tree planting initiatives and green infrastructure projects, while extending support to private landowner's keen on contributing to our collective green vision.

Additionally, our recent attainment of Tree Cities of the World status further exemplifies our commitment to fostering sustainable urban ecosystems.

Lastly a Tree-mendous thank you.

The team want to express our sincere thanks to all who have dedicated their time, energy, and commitment to our tree planting initiatives this season. Everyone's invaluable contributions have propelled us towards a remarkable triumph. Together, we've woven a tapestry of greenery that enriches our community's landscape, promising a more sustainable tomorrow for generations to come.

To find out how you can be involved or to keep up to date with our planting activities

Follow us and our journey via our social media platforms to watch our plans unfold

@LoveSolihull

