

Mid Kent Downs e-Bulletin

September 2010

Issue 4



A quarterly information service published by the Mid Kent Downs Countryside Partnership, specifically aimed at those working within the project area to enhance the landscape and carry out countryside conservation work.

If you no longer wish to receive this publication or you received this bulletin in paper form and would like to subscribe please e-mail midkentdowns@kentdowns.org.uk and let us know.

Please note: All underlined text can be clicked and will take you to the relevant website.

Latest News

Perry Wood

The Discover Perry Wood project is moving on at a great rate with a number of activities planned in coming months. A woodland arts event took place in June with a variety of activities including creating art from natural materials.

Perry Wood Information Days are being held at Selling Village Hall on Saturday 25th September and Saturday October 2nd between 10 and 4. All are welcome and this will be a chance to view and comment on the future plans for Perry Wood.

A **Small Mammal Workshop** will also be held on Sunday November 14th between 12noon and 6pm where you will get the chance to find out all about the different mice, voles and shrews that live in the woods.

You can find information about the project on the [Perry Wood page](#) of the Kent Downs website.

Heaths Countryside Corridor

The group have been busy with their Heritage Lottery Funded Wandering & Wondering project and have had a summer of practical archaeology events. The



focus

of the work has been one of the sites that formerly made up Chilston Park and contains the ice house and an old track that used to run all the way to the big house. Much of the ice house has now been uncovered and work will continue to stabilise what remains so that it survives into the future.

Forthcoming highlights include new way markers, a small mammal event and the chance to do some coppicing in Hurst Woods. For more information please look at the new [Heaths Countryside Corridor website](#).

Bredhurst Woodland Action Group

New interpretation panels have been installed at Bredhurst Woods. This helps to build upon the work that the group has done encouraging appropriate access to the woods and tells visitors about the various routes around the wood. For more information about the group visit their [website](#).



Free Trees Scheme

The Countryside Management Partnerships are once again running their Free Trees Scheme for 2010. Anybody can apply for up to 25



native trees that can be planted in gardens, to create hedgerows or in public open spaces. The deadline is October 30th October so don't miss out. You can get more information on the [Free Trees Scheme webpages](#).

Landowner Partnership Projects

More Landowner Partnership Projects are underway with ponds being created as well as interpretation panels and the

planting of hedges. We are able to provide up to 50% of the cost for projects that help improve an area for wildlife. Projects can be on private land or community based works on public open space such as the one at Hollingbourne Millenium Green Sensory Garden (right). If you would like to chat through your idea do give us a ring on 01303 815170.



Grants Update

The latest news concerning grants which local groups can apply for to fund their projects. If you would like to discuss funding for a project please contact the Mid Kent Downs Countryside Partnership team on 01303 815170 or midkentdowns@kentdowns.org.uk

The Phillips Fund



As we are rapidly approaching the tree planting season I thought it would be a good idea to remind you all about The Phillips Fund. They are very keen to support any planting projects in rural areas so if you are a community group, use volunteers and have any planting planned for the winter then

why not give the Kent Community Foundation a call to discuss your plans and ask for an application form. They offer funding of up to £2000. You can contact them on 01303 814500 or by e-mail at admin@kcf.org.uk

Community Spaces

This is a grant administered by Groundwork UK on behalf of Big Lottery and is aimed at groups who want to improve a community space. Grants range from £10,000 to £50,000 and are predominantly capital based. That is, they must be used to buy things rather than events and activities. The outcomes need to be community based and could include creating nature reserves, community gardens or recreation areas. The majority of the group who apply must be volunteers and the community spaces must be within 2 miles of where members live. For more information about the grant and the eligibility criteria go to the [Community Spaces website](#).

The Sarah and Francis Salway Grassroots Fund

This is another of the funds administered by the Kent Community Foundation and funds conservation and environmental projects of between £250 and £2000 that are delivered by volunteers in rural areas. For more information contact KCF on 01303 814500 or by e-mail at admin@kcf.org.uk

Woodland Trust Free Trees for Communities

Free trees for community groups & schools The Woodland Trust is offering up to 250 tree planting packs to suit different groups, from youth clubs to community projects. The pack sare designed to help groups to plant more trees, hedges and copses in their local shared spaces. Packs are available in two sizes:

- 105 trees – Planting as a hedge/copse
- 420 trees - Planting on roughly an acre of land (with canes and spirals)

Groups can apply for packs now to plant this autumn. Further information can be found on the [Woodland Trust website](#).

Events

Bredhurst Woodland Action Group.

Volunteer Task Days every 3rd Sunday of the month.

For more information go to their [website](#).

Boxley Warren

Practical task day (habitat enhancement)

Monday, November 8th (9.30 – 2.30)

For more information contact [MKDCP](#).

Heaths Countryside Corridor (Charing Heath and Lenham Heath)

Small Mammal Trapping

Saturday, 2nd October (10.00 – 1.00)

Install a way marker

Wednesday 20th October (10.00 – 4.00)

Rejuvenating the Woodland

Saturday 27th November (10.00 – 3.30)

For more information contact [MKDCP](#) or visit the [HCC website](#).

Park Farm Community Orchard, Lynsted

Hallowe'en Party (events for all the family)

Sunday, 31st October (4.00 – 6.00)

For more information visit their [website](#).

Perry Wood

Information Day (pop-in sessions)

Saturday, September 25th (10.00 – 4.00)

Information Day (pop-in sessions)

Saturday, October 2nd (10.00 – 4.00)

Small Mammal Day

Sunday, November 17th (12.00 – 6.00)

For more information contact [MKDCP](#).

Additional Sources of Help

For more information about external funding and to use Kent County Council's online grant finding software visit open4community.info/kent

Kent County Council also produces the excellent 'Inside Track' which is a fortnightly funding update newsletter. To download the latest copy go to the [External Funding webpages](#)

Contact Us

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