


National Trust Press Release

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Volunteers help plant 40,000 trees in National Trust woodland project in Cornwall

A major woodland creation project is underway in South East Cornwall thanks to the National Trust and a team of volunteers.

40,000 trees are being planted on Trust land at Lansallos, Fowey and Lanteglos on the south coast as part of the charity's plans to plant over 20 million trees nationally by 2030 for the benefit of people, nature and the climate.

Volunteers recently spent the day tending to around 1,000 saplings at Lansallos that had been hit by Storm Darragh. This involved re-staking, removing and replanting damaged trees.

Over 11,000 trees have already been planted at Lansallos with a further 6,000 being planted this winter at Coombe Farm, Fowey adding to the 6,000 trees planted last year. A further 17,600 saplings will begin to be planted at Lanteglos next winter and planting will continue there for the next 3 years

In total, over 30 hectares / 74 acres of new woodland will be created across the three projects. At Lansallos, the saplings are being planted behind the village and between existing woodlands to create a bigger swathe of woodland which will benefit nature. It will also be accessible to walkers who will be able to use existing rights of way and new permissive footpaths.

Trees play a vital role in nature, the climate and our wellbeing. However, the UK's woodlands are in decline and just 7% is in a good ecological state. Cornwall is one of the UK's least wooded counties and along with providing a habitat for the county's woodland wildlife which includes plants and fungi to mammals, birds, bees and beetles, woodlands also store and lock up existing atmospheric carbon, reduce the risk of flash flooding and prevent run off into water systems.

Andy Simmons, National Trust Lead Ranger for South East Cornwall said:

"We have an incredible team of volunteers who come out in all weathers to really make a difference and we are so grateful for their time. Not only will the new woodlands help to combat climate change, they will also provide invaluable refuges for some of our favourite woodland species such as the dormouse, barn owl and adder. We're delighted with how well this project is going and we're looking forward to planting thousands more trees this winter and over the next 3 years."


Richard Morton, a National Trust volunteer who is supporting the project said:

"I'm proud to have been part of the team creating this new woodland for Cornwall. I hope future generations will enjoy the landscape and enhanced biodiversity resulting from this project, further adding to the magic of the county."

Funding for the project has come from the Forestry Commission's Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO) and the trees being planted include traditional species such as oak, beech, chestnut, sycamore, rowan, hazel, blackthorn, hawthorn, holly and willow.

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Images: Images can be downloaded here:  [Woodland creation in SE Cornwall](#) . Only to be used in conjunction with this press release. Credit and caption as per file name.

Notes to editors

About the National Trust

The National Trust is an independent conservation charity founded in 1895 by three people: Octavia Hill, Sir Robert Hunter and Hardwicke Rawnsley, who saw the importance of the nation's heritage and open spaces and wanted to preserve them for everyone to enjoy. Today, across England, Wales and Northern Ireland, we continue to look after places so people and nature can thrive.

We care for more than 250,000 hectares of countryside, 780 miles of coastline, 1 million collection items and 500 historic properties, gardens and nature reserves. In 2023/24 we received 25.3 million visitors to our pay for entry sites. The National Trust is for everyone - we were founded for the benefit of the whole nation, and our 5.38 million members, funders and donors, and tens of thousands of volunteers support our work to care for nature, beauty, history for everyone, for ever.