

National Trust Press Release

Issued 11 March 2025

Images can be downloaded here:  [Tree planting at Godolphin](#)

Volunteers plant 800 trees near Godolphin to help tackle climate change

A countryside team from the National Trust in West Cornwall, along with local community groups, have planted 800 trees on the edge of Godolphin woods as part of the National Trust's ambition to plant 20 million trees by 2030.

A mixture of 22 different native species were planted by hand as part of a woodland planting programme, funded by Forest For Cornwall who paid for the supply of the saplings.

John Cartwright, Area Ranger for the West Cornwall countryside team, said, 'Increasing our woodland and forests is one of the simplest ways we can tackle climate change because trees are like the superheroes of the environment; they mitigate against the effects of climate change and preserve biodiversity.'

Trees lock in carbon emissions that otherwise contribute towards global warming by absorbing and storing carbon, and at the same time improve biodiversity by providing shelter, food and habitats for wildlife such as insects, small mammals and birds.'

The countryside team reached out to local community groups and organisations they work with to help achieve this winter's tree planting ambitions.

Among the community groups was Shifting Horizons, a small Community Interest Company who offer Forest and Beach school early intervention programmes to young people in West Penwith, members from the Godolphin Cross Community Association, and participants from Bys Vyken, a Cornish running events company.

Martin Penney, Director at Bys Vyken, said, 'We are a Cornish trail events company and it is very important for us to give back to the local community. We've been working with the National Trust for several years and the team gave us the opportunity to help with green projects and to put something back into the countryside that we love so much.'

Of the 250,000 hectares of land the National Trust cares for, 10% is woodland. The charity has made a commitment to increase this to 17% by planting 20 million trees by 2030.

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Notes to editors:

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Images:

Images can be downloaded here [Tree planting at Godolphin](#). Only to be used in conjunction with this press release. Credit and caption as per file name.

About the National Trust

In January 2025 the National Trust marked its 130th birthday by launching its new 10-year strategy People and Nature Thriving.

This strategy, which will guide the charity's work and direction from 2025-2035 and beyond, focuses on three key goals:

- Restore Nature
- End unequal access to nature, beauty and history
- Inspire more people to care and take action

The plans follow the largest public consultation ever carried out by the National Trust, with more than 70,000 people – including members, volunteers and industry partners – sharing their views on the Trust's work and direction. Read more about the National Trust's strategy [here](#).