

Woodland Trust - Community Woodland Grant Report

OBJECTIVES:

1. Training events

Our training events have been designed specifically, as a result of a survey, to cater for direct requests from the *Forest for Our Children* and *People Planting* Steering Groups in order to build skills and sustainability.

2. Manuals

Our ethos is to provide people with the *tools* (Steering Group Toolkit and 5 Step Rolling Programme Handbook) and the *practice* (woodland management techniques) enabling them to work in their own projects.

3. Tools

To purchase tools for regular *Golden Wood* management and for demonstration at Work Party training events.

OUTCOMES:

We ran two training events and distributed our two relevant manuals.

Training events

Saturday 15 November 2003 – 10am to 4pm

THE 5 STEP SCHOOL ROLLING PROGRAMME

- *Learning how it works*
- *Adapting it to your needs*
- *Building your skills and confidence in delivery*

We had 12 participants representing 7 of our *People Planting* projects. The projects represented were from Debenham, Lawshall, Needham Market, Margate, Shotley, Snape and Stutton.

We collated some feedback from our evaluation forms:

What was the best thing about the day?

- ❖ *'Good fun combined with a professional approach - as usual*
- ❖ *I wanted Golden Wood to be ours!*
- ❖ *Exchange of ideas and approach of other groups was inspirational*
- ❖ *It was great to see real projects in action and meet other participants*
- ❖ *Loved the Global Warming presentation*
- ❖ *It has been very helpful. We have been much encouraged*
- ❖ *I'm going away feeling very much part of the Green Light project. This is great news for our school community.*
- ❖ *It was great to focus just on the SRP. There was a good balance of educational issues; National Curriculum/Global issues, presenting skills.'*

What changes/deletions/additions would you suggest for further sessions?

- *'More creative ideas like Global Warming demo*
- *Longer Q&A session*
- *More opportunity to have general sharing session*
- *The means to make contact with another country could be improved'*

Saturday 21 February 2004 – 10am to 4pm

LEADING A WOODLAND WORK PARTY

- Making Health & Safety your priority
- Action plans and keeping records
- Practicing tree planting, mulching, hedge-laying etc

We had 32 participants representing 14 of our *People Planting* projects. The projects represented were from Becdes, Bury St Edmunds, Debenham, Denham, Drayton, Great Waldingfield, Holbrook, Lawshall, Needham Market, Margate, Sheffield, Shotley, Snape, Stoke by Nayland and Stutton.

We collated some feedback from our evaluation forms:

What was the best thing about the day?

- ❖ 'Talks were concise enough not to make us nod off & the physical work was great after the morning sitting/launch
- ❖ The practical instruction was very good; the guys knew their stuff and made things easy for us as students
- ❖ Good timing and not too much information
- ❖ Good mix of indoor/outdoor activities – Fast paced (a good thing)
- Clear presentation, friendly approach
- ❖ Hedge laying & Activity interaction
- ❖ Learning new skills and talking to other groups
- ❖ Tool demonstration
- ❖ Hedging and coppicing

What changes/deletions/additions would you suggest for further sessions?

- 'A session for all the groups to exchange information/experience
- Consider mid-morning break
- More time on theory
- Less time on the Health & Safety, Child Protection etc
- Would have been nice for more hands-on
- Risk Assessment form needs a "Who affected" section'

Manuals

5 STEP ROLLING PROGRAMME HANDBOOK

Tools, tips and techniques for teachers and school link people

We currently have 21 *People Planting* projects enrolled; each has been issued with a Handbook.

STEERING GROUP TOOLKIT MANUAL

The effective running of your project in line with the *People Planting* Code of Practice Each of our 21 projects has been issued with a Toolkit Manual.

TOOLS

For *Golden Wood* management - *Forest for Our Children* and *Tools for demonstration techniques for People Planting* projects

We purchased the enclosed list of new tools to use in our regular woodland management activities and for the Woodland Work Party training event.

29th March 2004