

I DIG TREES REPORT 2024-25

Climate | Wildlife | Communities



TABLE OF CONTENTS



LETTER FROM THE
CEO

1

PLANTING BY
NUMBERS STATS

2

THE INTERACTIVE
TREE MAP

3

REGIONAL PLANTING
BREAKDOWN

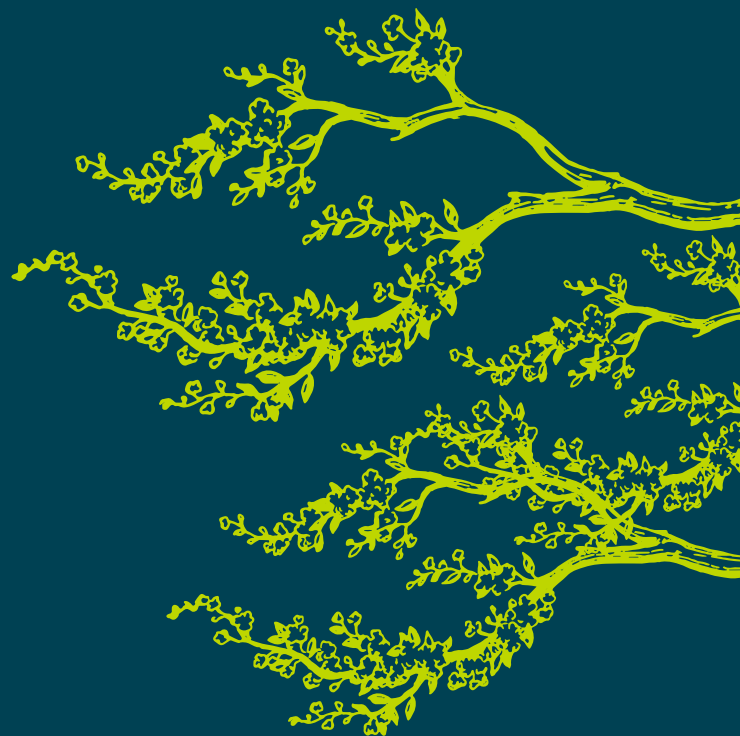
4

COMMUNITY
IMPACT STORIES

5

INDIVIDUAL &
COMMUNITY DONATIONS

6



TCV and OVO celebrate 10 years of I Dig Trees with tree planting at Stave Hill in London

LETTER FROM THE CEO



**REBECCA
KENNELLY**

CEO TCV

The Conservation Volunteers is thrilled to celebrate the 10th anniversary of our flagship community-led tree planting initiative, I Dig Trees. Over the past decade, with unwavering support from dedicated volunteers and partners, we have surpassed the milestone of planting **4.3 million trees across the UK** since I Dig Trees started in 2015.

This incredible achievement has led to the creation of over **4,658 biodiverse pocket forests**, providing essential habitats for wildlife and green spaces for communities to enjoy. These efforts are not only enhancing local environments but also playing a crucial role in combating climate change and ecological decline.

But we are just getting started. As we look to the future, we have exciting plans to deepen community engagement and track the impact of our tree planting on biodiversity, local environments, and the well-being of the volunteers who plant them. Our new user-friendly app will empower volunteers to become citizen scientists, monitoring tree health and contributing valuable data to ensure the best outcomes for wildlife and our communities.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our partners, donors, community groups, collaborators, and every single volunteer who has contributed to this remarkable endeavour so far.

Together, we are making a significant impact on the climate, wildlife, and communities across the UK.

**Rebecca Kennelly MBE, CEO,
The Conservation Volunteers**

4.3M

Number of trees planted

4,658

Pocket Forests

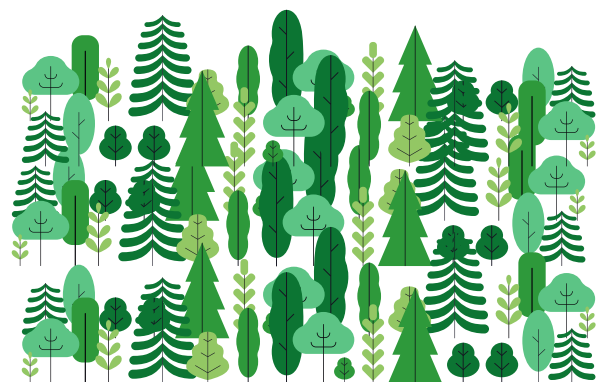


PLANTING BY NUMBERS



4,658 POCKET FORESTS

With an outpouring of support and the commitment of thousands of volunteers, we've achieved a milestone of over **4.3 million trees planted** throughout the UK. This extraordinary accomplishment is revitalising communities with well over **4,500 pocket forests** established.



These trees now bring habitats for wildlife, improved health for our communities and contribute to global efforts to tackle climate and biodiversity crisis. Their far-reaching benefits will continue to enrich the lives of countless individuals for generations to come.

The phenomenal I Dig Trees stats, so far...



4,312,350

trees planted
across the UK



37,142,270

m² covered by newly
planted trees.



9,303

different sites
planted



8,957

community groups
joining in



1,638,693

tonnes of CO₂
saved



147,932

volunteers planting
trees



887,592

volunteer hours
committed



86,247

packs of mixed
variety trees



4,658

wildlife friendly
pocket forests

887,592 volunteer hours committed - That's a staggering 101 years of continuous volunteering – a century of dedication from our I Dig Trees community!

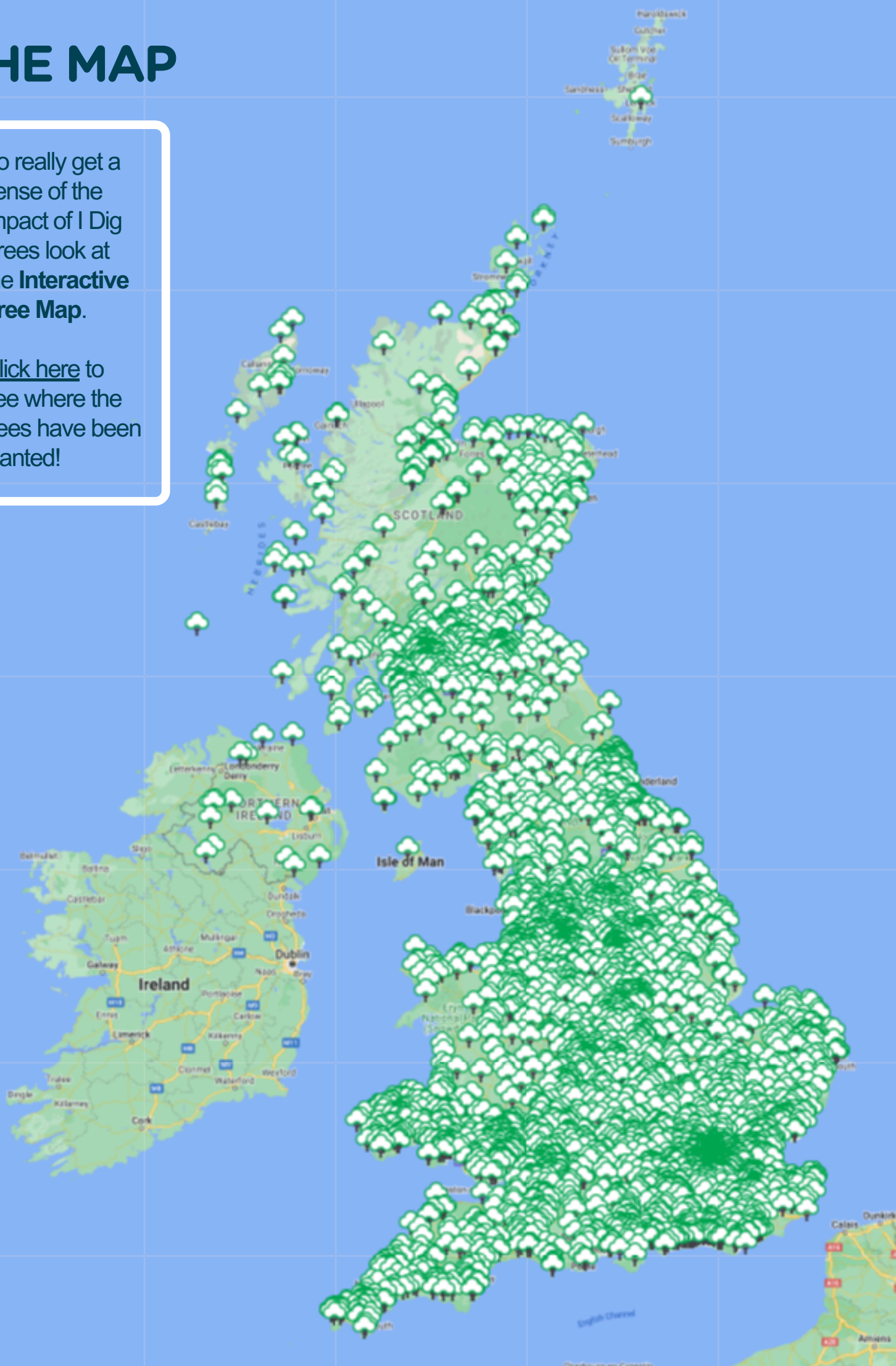
147,932 volunteers - That's enough people to fill Wembley Stadium over one and a half times – united in action for nature!

37,142,270 m² of land covered - That's the equivalent of 5,202 football pitches transformed into thriving woodland!

THE MAP

To really get a sense of the impact of I Dig Trees look at the **Interactive Tree Map**.

[Click here](#) to see where the trees have been planted!



2024-25 REGIONAL TREE PLANTING BREAKDOWN



Our impact continues to grow. In 2024-25, we've engaged 1,188 community groups, resulting in the planting of 605,400 trees!

From urban neighbourhoods to rural villages, we've had wonderful feedback. People are rolling up their sleeves to enhance their local greenspaces, boost biodiversity, and build climate resilience.

It's inspiring to see communities coming together and making a real difference in their local areas and contributing to a phenomenal nation-wide picture of tree planting. And it's clear that they don't just plant trees but also foster a sense of community and a deeper connection to nature, both of which are intrinsic to TCV's mission of connecting people and green spaces to deliver lasting outcomes for both.

| Region | Trees Planted |
|---------------|---------------|
| East Midlands | 28,900 |
| Eastern | 48,100 |
| London | 44,700 |
| North East | 22,650 |
| North West | 62,700 |
| Scotland | 95,800 |
| South East | 93,750 |
| South West | 49,600 |
| Wales | 81,450 |
| West Midlands | 30,550 |
| Yorkshire | 47,200 |
| TOTAL | 605,400 |

Community Groups
Engaged:

1,188

Pocket Forests
created:

471



COMMUNITY IMPACT STORIES

Each year we receive hundreds of feedback stories. Immerse yourself in just a few of these inspiring tales of transformation for climate, wildlife and our communities!



Broadwater School

“Over two days, every single student from Year 7 to Year 10 rolled up their sleeves and planted at least one tree, making a significant contribution to their school's environmental efforts. This fantastic initiative saw hundreds of saplings find their new home on the school grounds, creating a greener and more vibrant campus for future generations.

Not only did this event foster a sense of community and responsibility among the students, but it also had a positive impact on the local environment. These newly planted trees will help absorb carbon dioxide, improve air quality, and provide habitat for wildlife.”



Blondin Consortium

"We were delighted to receive 300 trees, which sounded a lot but we realised too late that we could take more when we found that so many people were interested in getting involved."

We have already had families come back to see what they have planted so it looks like they are going to be well looked after. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to engage with our community."



"Our Reception Class have been busy planting trees. For the first time, we now have our very own Alder tree!"

'Someone is sitting in the shade, because someone planted a tree a long time ago.'

The aim is to create biodiverse pocket forests across the land for climate, wildlife and our communities."

Alderwood Primary School





"Thank you very much for the wonderful donation of 300 trees and shrubs. I am pleased to report that we had two great day's planting, getting 18 volunteers to assist planting them all in a combined 50 hours of effort. While doing this we also litter-picked the estate and filled four bags of rubbish, so a double win.

Even better, and since the planting, we have had 4 people offer (so far!) to pay for large bags of daffodils for later in the year when planting is optimal in September, and all because they saw this action. So it has been a catalyst for real positivity and generated commendable community spirit.

We have received much praise from our estate and people are very happy with the result. Many have taken the long view as is only right with trees and shrubs. They recognise that it will take a while for the planted areas to reach their best, but this start is really good.

Residents now feel "buy-in" to their estate and not just that it is a place to live, for others to carry out any community action, and to be allowed to deteriorate over the years; but a living entity in which they can make a difference for the good of us all. Your donation has been instrumental in achieving this result, so many, many thanks once more.

We are all delighted at the results."





1st Llanfairpwll Scouts

"With help from Leaders, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and parents we managed to plant all nine hundred and fifty trees in about five hours. We also managed to construct two dead hedges to protect some of the new tree planting."

I thought I should also let you know that the quality of the whips, canes and tree guards were by far the best we've ever had, so thank you for that too."



"Our volunteers and every single child at the school were involved from the nursery to year six, and everybody had a thoroughly enjoyable and educational day, leaving a fantastic legacy for the community and wildlife."

St Gregory's Primary School

"Thank you so much for all your support, these trees are really important and have been used to create new infield hedges, breaking up 100-acre fields that previously been wildlife deserts."

Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group





“A record-breaking 74 volunteers turned up yesterday to help create a new wildlife recovery zone on the banks of the River Exe just outside Tiverton.

At the top of the site, running parallel to the existing Devon hedge, a 200 metre line of hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, dogwood, elderberry, dog rose and crab apple was planted. These trees will soon be providing food, shelter and nesting sites for birds, small mammals and insects. Below this, windbreak lines were planted running north-to-south (so as to maximise sunlight on the growing trees), along the contours of the hill (to ease picking), of sweet chestnut, heartnut, rowan, hornbeam, alder, cherry plum and silver birch.

Each tree was carefully planted to increase its chances of survival: first a 1/2 metre area was scraped clear of grass (including the roots), then a slit dug and the tree placed carefully in. Each tree was protected from mice, voles, rabbits and roe deer with a 1.8m re-used tree tube guard. Then a biodegradable cardboard mat was put round the tree to kill the grass by blocking the light and then a bucket of woodchip mulch was put on top to keep the mat in place, provide nutrients to the growing tree and decrease water loss from evaporation.

A group from Tiverton Scouts planted 400 hedge plants around a dead hedge we'd previously created from donated Christmas trees and fallen branches. The living hedge will grow into the dead hedge, very quickly creating a zone for wildlife to live, hide, eat and nest in.

This is also the area where we will hopefully be re-introducing harvest mice this coming Autumn, assuming the habitat is ready.”



The Howe Trust

"Well the storms this weekend meant the weather outside was certainly not 'delightful' for The Howe Trust's hedge planting day, but we all had a great day!"

Our plucky volunteers, together with help from the Oxford Conservation Volunteer group and students from The Oxford University Nature Conservation Society soldiered on and planted over 500 mixed native saplings. Fueled by plenty of tea and homemade biscuits we dug, planted and mulched through the day to create almost 120m of new native hedgerow - a hedgeline which will join up 2 copses on our land, and which will boost the habitat for the many varieties of wildlife living on The Howe.

Thank you TCV for supplying the trees, canes and guards and so making it all possible!"



Harewood Estate

"Our TCV order of 950 trees were planted by a Bronze Duke of Edinburgh group. This land parcel is part of a nationally recognised conservation programme and the addition of these trees has increased biodiversity, created shelter and habitat for wildlife and largely will play a pivotal role in a longer-term rewilding programme ... thank you for your continuing exemplary efforts in conservation."



Grange Project CIC

"We had a wonderful time in the welsh mud, fueled by cake and tea. As well as providing fantastic habitat and food sources, these hedges also serve as important boundaries around our newly planted traditional orchard and market garden.

Diolch to I Dig Trees for their support in providing trees."



The Action Group

"We combined the day with 'Time to Talk' day, and focused on spending time together outside, working in the garden, and talking about mental health.

We are all very excited to watch our garden grow over the coming months and years, and to be proud that we have created this legacy garden not only for our own community at The Action Group, a community of people with disabilities, their families and carers, and our wonderful staff, but for the wider Granton community.

A lot of our local neighbours came by on the day to see what was happening and were delighted at this initiative!"

INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY DONATIONS



£5,614

= total raised
by individuals

That's an extra 1,871 trees!



£2,221

= total raised by
community groups

That's an extra 740 trees!

Our wonderful network of community groups and individual donors supported the funding of over 2,600 trees this year, helping more community green spaces to benefit with the planting of more trees.

The Conservation Volunteers would like to thank the thousands of community groups and individuals who have taken part in the I Dig Trees initiative so far. We are also incredibly grateful to our generous donors and partner organisations for their support. Your enthusiasm and commitment to improving the environment are truly inspiring.

We look forward to another year of the UK's largest community tree-planting phenomenon. **Together**, we are making a real difference, taking positive action for climate, wildlife, and communities!

We look forward to planting with you
again in the new season!



We are The Conservation Volunteers

Together, with the help of our fantastic partners, volunteers and individual donors we're taking positive action - planting millions of UK trees for climate, wildlife and communities!



NatWest Group

SUPPORTED BY

MAYOR OF LONDON

Find out more about I Dig Trees from TCV
and ways you can get involved by visiting

www.tcv.org.uk



[Click here to subscribe to Greenzine, the monthly newsletter from The Conservation Volunteers](#)



© Copyright 2025 The Conservation Volunteers
Registered in England as a limited company (976410) and as a charity in
England (261009) and Scotland (SC039302)
Registered Office: Sedum House, Mallard Way, Doncaster DN4 8DB