

BECOME A TREE
WARDEN!



More inside on: Volunteering,
Ecofilms, Church Panel update & More

Volunteering

On a drizzly day at the end of March I went to visit one of Prospect Foundations volunteers to interview him for this newsletter. I was met by Paul Harrison and Gemma Tomlinson along with another volunteer on the path that runs between Accrington Station and Church & Oswaldtwistle.



Paul was keen to get stuck into work along this path where the task for the day was replacing some Grey Alder Trees with Birch and Willow to promote the growth of the Yellow Bird's Nest Orchid found in only two sites in Lancashire.

After collecting some tools from the boot of Gemma's car and a demonstration from the local tree officer I got stuck in and asked a few questions.

Whilst asking about how he became involved with Prospects

Paul explained 'I wanted to volunteer and help out and do some work to improve my own prospects'. Paul had been a volunteer with Prospects for around two months at the time I interviewed him and is already involved in many projects. These include 'Rhododendron bashing, planting bushes, tree management and clearing pathways', he has also become a Tree Warden (see our article on Tree Wardens later in this newsletter).

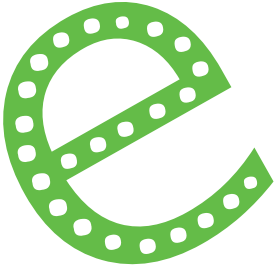
We then went on to discuss why other people should volunteer, to which he said 'not enough people volunteer, we always need more help on our tasks'. I could tell by this point that he really wanted to get stuck in with the task in hand that day as he was eagerly looking at the others busying themselves.

So I asked one last question 'What would you say to someone thinking about volunteering?' He quipped 'Just get stuck in, Dr Pepper; what's the worst that can happen?' we both laughed and then I thanked him for his time before putting my rather soggy notebook away, by which time he was busy shifting tree stakes to where they needed to be.

Ecofont

Everyone knows that the price of printer ink is expensive. But did you know that the price of ink is the same millilitre for millilitre as some of the most expensive perfumes?

Then maybe you would be interested in a way to save money on your printing using Ecofont. The Ecofont saves ink and toner without sacrificing readability.



The Font With Holes

The font works by reducing the amount of ink required to print text by placing holes within the letters. Interestingly the font maintains its legibility because our brains amazingly ignore the holes in the letters whilst we are reading.

The process used to produce ink is extremely CO² intensive.

Saving money is not the only benefit to using the Ecofont it's also

good for the planet.

It's free to download and use from www.ecofont.com and easy to add to your fonts folder so download it today to start saving money and ink straight away.

Changing to the Ecofont will not only save the strain on your pocket it will also help reduce your carbon footprint. Although it is not widely known, the process used to produce ink is extremely CO² intensive.

Therefore using the Ecofont will decrease your environmental load. The Ecofont therefore gives you an opportunity to contribute your own share of social responsibility in an attractive way.

To get the free font all you have to do is go to www.ecofont.com and click the 'Download Ecofont Vera Sans' link and follow the instructions. Then start using the font today to help reduce your environmental impact and save money too.

TOP TIP!

The Ecofont works best up to a font size of 11pt.
(Like we have used in this newsletter)

Become a

And our feature article this issue is about the Tree Warden Scheme. It is a national initiative run by The Tree Council to get people actively involved in their local trees and woods.

Essentially tree wardens are volunteers who gather information about their local trees, get involved in local tree matters and encourage local practical projects to do with trees and woods.



The scheme has its origins in the early 1980's in East Sussex and Leicestershire. The objective was to create a network of informed people who could co-ordinate local tree based environmental improvements on behalf of the County Council.

The scheme was extremely successful and was rolled out nationally in 1989. There are now 8,000 Tree Wardens volunteering in 140 local networks.

So I guess you are still wondering what tree wardens actually do. The answer is that the activities tree wardens get involved in fall within four broad headings: gathering information, local liaison, practical projects and protecting trees.

Here in Hyndburn our network of tree wardens has been allowed to wither away with the loss of Mark Cocks who left the post of Trees & Woodlands officer at Hyndburn Borough Council in 2006. The time to re-launch the scheme in Hyndburn is now upon us.

Prospects Foundation is also involved in the newly relaunched Tree Warden Scheme. Its connection is in the form of organising relevant training courses for Tree Wardens to attend. The first two practical events have already taken place. These were a Woodland Survey and a Charcoal Making Workshop.

This is all part of developing the idea for a Hyndburn based Woodland Management Enterprise. The idea is to set up a 'social enterprise' (basically a company with social aims rather than being simply based on personal gain). The new enterprise could offer woodland management

TREE WARDEN

services to the general public and the local authorities.

Although still in the early stages thoughts on possible products and services include:

1. supplying Wood Fuel
2. producing Fencing Materials
3. Making Charcoal
4. Allotment Products such as pea sticks and fencing
5. Rustic Garden Furniture
6. Growing Trees for projects and larger planting programmes such as the new 25-year 'Woodlands from Waste' programme.

Initially it is envisaged that the tree warden group could have an active role in the management of woodlands within Hyndburn. The first step in this area would be to complete a survey of our woodland areas as a starting point towards detailed management plans and on the ground management activities in which the tree wardens would preferably have a large input.

The ultimate idea is for the tree warden group to become mostly self-sufficient in order for wardens to advance the projects and work areas that they are most interested in and find to be most important for their areas.

If you are interested in becoming

actively involved in the Tree Warden Scheme, please contact Phil Johnson at Hyndburn Borough Council.



Phil Johnson

Trees and Woodlands Officer
Hyndburn Borough Council
Scaitcliffe House
Ormerod Street
Accrington
BB5 0PF

Tel: 01254 380178
Email: philip.johnson@
hyndburnbc.gov.uk

Spotlight Church

It's been another busy year with the Gatty Gang, we've been up to all sorts and plenty planned for the season ahead. Here's some of what we've been up to:

BBC Look North West Spring Watch (June 09)

We were well excited to hear BBC Spring Watch wanted to film at the India St Back Yard Project.. Turned out it wasn't Bill Oddie's brigade but BBC Look North West.



The Wall (May 09)

Back in 2008, the wall in the Gatty compound was bowed like a banana, partially collapsed and another frost or 2 would've seen it go. Re-building began with pockets left as bird nesting holes. We finally finished it in May 09 after sourcing stone copings. A family of blue tits were nesting in the pockets by the time we were finishing, we hope they're back this year. point presentation.

Baxenden Allotment & Garden Society Show (Sept 09)

Having never entered a show before and not really knowing what to expect or the standards. We were eager to see the results after judging; 5x 1st & 2x 2nd prizes. Not bad for a 1st attempt and looking round the room, we could have confidently entered more categories. So we're looking forward to entering again this year – 4th Sept, Hollins Technical College – why not give it a go yourself.

The Hairy Bikers (Feb 10)

I've been stalking them again – I confess I have the evidence – well signatures. I caught up with them April 09 at Blackburn Cathedral filming for their Food Tour of GB. And yours truly, Gavin and the Weedster were on the finished episode. They featured a potato grower in Ormskirk.

Prospects Poppies (2010)

We're also well underway with the Prospects Poppies Project which has now become 3 projects – schools poppies, war memorials, HBC poppies meadows. So hopefully by next year there'll be good displays across the Borough to commemorate our Pals.

By Cath Holmes

For the full article and more pictures please look on the website
www.prospectsfoundation.org.uk

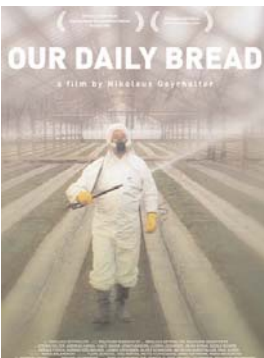
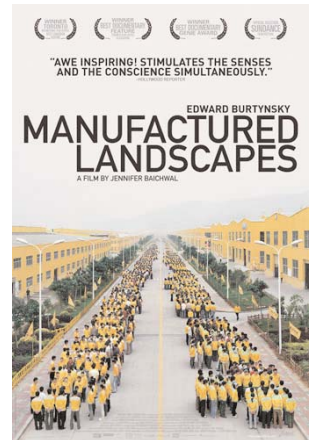
ECOfilms



As westerners revel in designer lattes and cappuccinos, impoverished Ethiopian coffee growers suffer the bitter taste of injustice. In this eye-opening expose of the multi-billion dollar industry, Black Gold traces one man's fight for a fair price.

Manufactured Landscapes By Jennifer Baichwal

A documentary on the world and work of renowned artist Edward Burtynsky. Internationally acclaimed for his large-scale photographs of "manufactured landscapes". The film follows him through China, as he shoots the evidence and effects of that country's massive industrial revolution. The filmmakers also extend the narratives of Burtynsky's photographs, allowing us to meditate on our impact on the planet and witness both the epicentres of industrial endeavour and the dumping grounds of its waste.



Our Daily Bread by Nikolaus Geyrhalter

Welcome to the world of industrial food production and high-tech farming! The film looks without commenting into the places where food is produced in Europe: monumental spaces, surreal landscapes and bizarre sounds. an industrial environment which leaves little space for individualism. People, animals, crops and machines play a supporting role in the logistics of this system which provides our society's standard of living.

For more information about any of these films please contact
Mike Stapleford: mike.stapleford@prospectsfoundation.org.uk

Nature walks



There is a wealth of green space and walking routes in Hyndburn and this project aims to help local people get closer to nature through participation in expert led nature walks, active volunteering, training and community management of key sites. An annual Hyndburn nature walks festival will be organised during the summer each year.

If you have any ideas, would like to volunteer; if you are able to lead a nature walk, are interested in helping to manage a site or would like to take part in some training get in touch!

Gemma Tomlinson
Nature Walks Project Officer

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Community Food Growing



The Community Food Growing project was set up to increase the use of Hyndburn's allotments and create new vibrant growing spaces for local food. Experienced allotmenters, novice growers, schools, community groups and individuals can all be involved in the project which offers advice, training and practical help for everyone who wishes to grow a their own food.

So if you want to start growing your own 5-a-day or wish to simply grow a few tomatoes in your window box contact the project co-ordinator.

Ian Hodgson
Community Food Growing
Co-ordinator

Tel: 01254 380244

Email: ian.hodgson@prospectsfoundation.org.uk



Social Enterprise

Climate Change



Our Social Enterprise Development Initiative aims to develop successful social businesses with an environmental theme that will also benefit the local community. Working with residents, community groups and other organisations in Accrington, the Social Enterprise Development initiative hopes to turn ideas into reality to create jobs, volunteer experiences and training opportunities. Please see our website for more information on the projects that are being explored and progressed and contact the Social Enterprise Development Officer if you would like to be involved.

Mike Stapleford
Social Enterprise Development
Officer
Tel: 01254 380675
Email: mike.stapleford@prospectsfoundation.org.uk



The Community Response to Climate Change Project may involve any scheme which counteracts the effects of climate change. All projects that reduce energy consumption and therefore reduce carbon emissions in the home, in the community or used in transport can be included. Saving energy usually saves money too, so disadvantaged communities can often benefit most by becoming more sustainable. See our website for ideas on reducing energy use and contact the Climate Change Development Manager with your ideas to help people in Hyndburn respond to climate change.

Lesley Cryer
Climate Change Development
Manager
Tel: 01254 380677
Email: lesley.cryer@prospectsfoundation.org.uk



Development Manager



The PROSPECTS Foundation is a charity committed to sustainable development in Hyndburn. We support the eight PROSPECTS panels ensuring that they have everything they need to implement their projects. In addition we aim to assist anyone in the borough who would like to improve the local environment in projects that link in with our five themes; Biodiversity, Energy, Sustainable Transport, Waste and Recycling and Food Growing. The Development Manager supports all the project staff and oversees the running of the charity.

Ellie Taylor
Tel: 01254 380677
Email: [ellie.taylor@prospects
foundation.org.uk](mailto:ellie.taylor@prospectsfoundation.org.uk)

Marketing & PR



Our Marketing and PR is carried out by Christopher Barrow one of our dedicated volunteers. Assisting us with Updating the website producing our Newsletter and other promotional material.

If you would like to write an Article for the next Newsletter Please contact Gemma Tomlinson.

EVENTS

DAWN CHORUS WALK, Accrington

Monday 3rd May, 7am!

One for the early birds! Celebrate Dawn Chorus Day by getting up bright and early to hear the morning song.

Meeting Point: Arden Hall gates, at the end of Plantation Street.

WALK IN THE WOODS, Accrington

Wednesday 19th May, 6pm – 8pm

It's Walk in the Woods Month and the Lancashire Wildlife Trust will be leading this walk around Peel Park.

Meeting Point: Peel Park gates, top of Avenue Parade

BAT WALK, Accrington

Friday 28th May, 9pm to approx 10.30pm

It's that time of year when the bat detectors come out!

Booking is essential as places are limited!

STREAM DIPPING at ARDEN HALL, Accrington

Wednesday 2nd June, 1pm to 3pm

A perfect half term family activity, come and find out what water beasts are hiding in the local stream. Booking is essential as places are limited!

See

www.prospectsfoundation.org.uk
for more details!

GREAT HARWOOD NATURE TRAIL, Great Harwood

Thursday 3rd June, 1pm start

It's Hyndburn's Active Pledge week and National Family Week so come and join us on this 4 mile half term walk.

Meeting Place: End of All Springs Drive, next to Memorial Park

DONKEY BACK PICNIC SITE CLEAN UP, Church

Saturday 12th June, 10.30am – approx 1pm

Help the Church PROSPECTS Panel with their annual clean and maintenance of the Donkey Back Picnic site, Meeting place: At the picnic site – follow the access route through the gate next to Kirk Church

CANAL 200, Hyndburn

Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th June

It's the 200th anniversary of the opening of Hyndburn's stretch of the Leeds to Liverpool Canal. Boats rides, parties and walks will be taking place. Contact Clayton Neighbourhood Management for more information 01254 875691.

HIMALAYAN BALSAM REMOVAL, Accrington

Tuesday 29th June, 6pm to 8pm

Help us manage this dominant plant at Arden Hall.

Meeting Point: Arden Hall gates, end of Plantation St

Panel Meetings

Baxenden 4th Monday of the month, 7.30pm at Alma Inn, Baxenden.

Church 3rd Monday of the month 7.30pm, Contact Prospects Foundation for details of venue.

Clayton Last Tuesday of the month 7.00pm at The Neighbourhood Management Office, Clayton.

Huncoat 3rd Monday of the month, 7.30pm at The Black Bull Public House, Huncoat.

Rishton 1st Tuesday of the month, 7.00pm at Primetime, Rishton.

For details of Oswaldtwistle and Great Harwood Panel meetings please contact Prospects Foundation.

CONTACT US

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