



****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY - 10,000 TREES TO CREATE "URBAN FOREST" IN BRADFORD

Saturday 27th November 2021

To mark the start of National Tree Week, The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) will unveil a flagship project to create its first "urban forest" through the planting of 10,000 trees at Newhall Park in Bradford.

As one of the UK's youngest and most diverse cities with over a quarter of its population under 16, this project will celebrate Bradford's multiculturalism and commitment to tree planting across areas of socioeconomic need.

Working in partnership with Trees for Cities and the City of Bradford Metropolitan Council, the QGC will bring together the local community, school students and voluntary groups of all ages to plant 10,000 trees. The project contributes to the Council's "Tree for Every Child" programme, which forms part of a broader plan to plant 55,000 trees over the next three years.

Volunteers on the day, which include former Bradford resident Alastair Campbell, will plant a variety of species to transform a flat and underused space into what will eventually become a vibrant and accessible woodland for local communities, which has 10 primary schools within a 1-mile radius.

Sir Nicholas Bacon, Chairman of The Queen's Green Canopy said:

"The Queen's Green Canopy is proud to unveil its first urban forestry project in Bradford, continuing our work to support urban greening in areas of high socioeconomic deprivation and low canopy cover across the UK. Working with Trees for Cities and Bradford Council, we hope to establish a beautiful and sustainable space to connect local people with nature, and create a cleaner, greener, healthier place for residents and future generations to enjoy."

Alan Titchmarsh, MBE DL, Ambassador for The Queen's Green Canopy said:

"As an Ambassador for The Queen's Green Canopy who was born and brought up in Ilkley, and served an apprenticeship in the nurseries of the Parks Department there, I am delighted to support this brilliant local initiative. I would like to send my best to all the volunteers, school students and members of the local community who will be there on the day. With the tree planting season now in full swing, I am proud to say that I've planted my Jubilee tree, joining people from all over the country who are getting involved with this special initiative to celebrate Her Majesty. The season runs from October to March so be sure to grab a spade soon and "Plant a tree for the Jubilee".

David Elliott, Trees for Cities, Chief Executive said:

"We are incredibly proud to be partnering with The Queen's Green Canopy and City of Bradford Metropolitan City Council this National Tree Week. Together we hope to enable and inspire a new generation of individuals and communities to plant, protect and promote urban trees in Bradford - one of the UK's most youthful and diverse cities! Through the partnership, we are encouraging local people to come together to plant a tree for the Jubilee as a legacy to Her Majesty's service to the nation, while also delivering urban greening as part of Bradford's Tree for Every Child initiative to plant 55,000 trees over the next three years - one tree for every child - that will survive and thrive for generations to come."

Cllr Sarah Ferriby, Bradford Council's Portfolio Holder for Healthy People and Places said:

"This event is part of our Tree for Every Child project, which is one of our many climate actions. This event also forms part of the Queen's Green Canopy, and they have kindly contributed to the project. We are delighted to host this event with our partners Trees for Cities and welcome the Lord Lieutenant and all the guests attending on the day. This year we are working with primary schools and community organisations to plant 10,000 trees at Newhall Park. We also plan to establish 20 school orchards and plant hundreds of native trees in another ten schools across the district. This is all supported by our local partners - Forest of Bradford, YorGreen CIC and Bradford Environmental Education Service."

Alastair Campbell said:

"I am looking forward to going back to Bradford to plant some trees as part of The Queen's Green Canopy. I spent the first eleven years of my life in West Yorkshire and I think travelling around with my dad on his vet's rounds visiting farms was when I first experienced the power and the pull of beautiful scenery. Trees are so important to that, and so important to our urban life too. But above all we perhaps know more than ever now, in the wake of the recent COP, that they are vital to our future survival, and that of other species. So there are so many reasons to want to be there and to be part of this. Added to which it will give me an easy selection for my Tree of the Day which I post every day on social media."

Volunteers who are interested to get involved in tree planting in Bradford on Saturday 27th November can register here: <https://www.treesforcities.org/newhallpark>

Background

This project is being delivered in partnership with Trees for Cities, a UK charity working at a national and international scale to improve lives by planting trees in cities. They get stuck in with local communities to connect urban populations with nature, cultivate lasting change and deliver the multiple benefits of urban trees for today's and future generations.

The Queen's Green Canopy and Trees for Cities are working in partnership to deliver community led urban greening projects in all four nations of the UK as part of the Platinum Jubilee year. Targeting areas of greatest social and environmental need, the partnership aims to bring diverse communities of all ages, faiths and beliefs together to actively improve local environments, increase biodiversity and beautify communal spaces.

The Bradford project follows the successful delivery of the QGC's first urban greening project in Tower Hamlets in October, in partnership with Trees for Cities.

In 2020, Bradford was awarded "Tree City of the World" status for its commitment to urban forestry management.

The Queen's Green Canopy

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "**Plant a Tree for the Jubilee**".

Everyone from individuals to Scout and Girlguiding groups, villages, cities, counties, schools and corporates will be encouraged to play their part to enhance our environment by planting trees during the official planting season between October to March. Tree planting will commence again in October 2022, through to the end of the Jubilee year.

With a focus on planting sustainably, the QGC will encourage tree planting to create a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation, which will benefit future generations.

As well as inviting the planting of new trees, *The Queen's Green Canopy* will dedicate a network of 70 Ancient Woodlands across the United Kingdom and identify 70 Ancient Trees to celebrate Her Majesty's 70 years of service.

By inviting everyone to plant considerable numbers of new trees throughout the country, the QGC seeks to highlight the significant value of trees and woodlands as nature's simple but highly effective way to clean the air we breathe, slow the impact of climate change, create important wildlife habitats and improve our general health and wellbeing.

- Throughout Her reign, The Queen has planted more than 1,500 trees all over the world and has spoken alongside Sir David Attenborough of the importance of trees in the Earth's future.
- The QGC is a voluntary and inclusive initiative which is open to participation by everyone in the UK.
- The QGC is a symbolic gift which involves the voluntary dedication of forests and woodland – there is no land/title transfer.
- The QGC is a not-for-profit initiative, which has not received Government funding.

Further information about the QGC is available: www.queensgreencanopy.org

The Queen's Green Canopy Partners

Collaboration is central to the QGC. We are proud to work with our partners **Cool Earth, The Royal Horticultural Society, The Woodland Trust, Trees for Cities, The Forest Canopy Foundation and DEFRA, The Tree Council, The Conservation Volunteers and Community Forest Trust.**

The Queen's Green Canopy – Platinum Supporters

The QGC is grateful to be working with a select group of Platinum Supporters: **Royal Mail Group, Coutts, John Lewis & Partners, Waitrose & Partners, Rentokil Initial, Coupa, Regatta and Craghoppers, Bridgepoint, Howdens, Johnnie Walker, McDonald's UK & Ireland.**

We are also pleased to be working with **Bags of Ethics by Supreme Creations as an Official Supporter.**

The Queen's Green Canopy – QGC Friends Network

A diverse collection of groups located across the UK, our Friends Network is supporting the QGC, from planting trees to helping inspire the nation to get involved.

Capel Manor College	National Trust
Country Land & Business Association (CLA)	National Trust for Scotland
Clyde Climate Forest	Natural England
Commonwealth War Graves Commission	Natural Resources Wales
Community Woodlands Association (CWA)	National Farmers Union Scotland
DAERA NI	Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh
Earthwatch Europe	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
Eden Project	Royal Forestry Society
EDT Industrial Cadets	Royal Scottish Forestry Society
English Heritage	Royal Warrant Holders Association
Forestry and Land Scotland	Scotland Finest Woods Awards
Forestry Commission	Scottish Forestry
Green Action Trust	Scottish Land & Estates
HighGround	SUGi
Historic Houses	The Crown Estate
Horticultural Trades Association (HTA)	The National Forest
National Association of Civic Officers (NACO)	The Royal Parks
National Farmers Union (NFU)	The Wildlife Trust
	Welsh Government

QGC social media channels

Instagram: @queensgreencanopy

Twitter: @QGCanopy

Facebook: @queensgreencanopy

LinkedIn: @queensgreencanopy

Hashtags: #queensgreencanopy #plantatreeforthejubilee #jubileetree

Trees for Cities

Trees for Cities is the only UK charity working at a national and international scale to improve lives by planting trees in cities. Trees for Cities gets stuck in with local communities to cultivate lasting change in their neighbourhoods – whether it's revitalising forgotten spaces, creating healthier environments or getting people excited about growing, foraging and eating healthy food. Trees for cities have planted over 1.2 million urban trees across the UK and around the world.

Further information about Trees for Cities is available at: www.treesforcities.org

Notes to Editors

Members of the media are invited to attend the tree planting event between 1000 and 1300. Please contact Marnie Gaffney at The Queen's Green Canopy or Chris Owens to register interest.

The address is: Newhall Park, Newhall Park Drive (off Newhall Way), Bradford BD4

Media Contact

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