

Hi Everyone,

Just a little catch up from SGEG on what we have been up to and what is coming up.

Coming up is a bulb planting morning on 26th November. Bulbs will be planted at Hullmead and at two sites at Nursery Hill. If you would like to take part in this please either just turn up at the Village Hall on the day at 10 am or for more information contact claire@merriman.co.uk

This follows on from the planting we did last year, which many of you helped with. We have decided to leave those areas this Autumn and see what happens to the areas next spring.



Bulb planting day
26th November
All volunteers welcome!

Meet 10am outside the village hall (Finish 11.30am)

No experience necessary. Help improve the environment in Shamley Green!

Bring: Gloves and bulb planter (if you have one, but we have spare if not)

More details: claire@merriman.co.uk
shamleygreenenvironment.co.uk

Next years Amphibian spring migration is still clearly some way off but I am sure it will come round very quickly. During Feb-April toads frogs and newts need help to get to their breeding ponds safely without being run over. We have at least 3 toad crossings in Shamley Green and last year the SG toad patrol helped 1900 amphibians to safety. [Amphibians | Shamley Green Environment Group](#)

The toad patrol urgently needs more volunteers to help for an hour or so at dusk on warm wet evenings. More volunteers would mean that those who do come out can come out less often. Please contact Regena: toads@surrey-arg.org.uk or charlotte.gray88@gmail.com. Please also let them know if you are no longer interested in taking part. Regena and Charlotte do an amazing job but they need more of us to help.

Wildflowers - The new mowing regimes have resulted in many more wild flowers in our village but we would not have the opportunity to know so much about them if it wasn't for Jane Lovett's wonderful wildflower diary. We are so lucky to have Jane as a member because not only are her reports wonderful to read but they also give us a really good benchmark for the future.

[Wildflower Diary | Shamley Green Environment Group](#)



Mowing - Decisions on mowing of the Greens are for the Parish Council but based on advice from SGEG. Proposals for 2023 will be discussed by the Parish Council in the new year, based on SGEG proposals available on the website. If you have suggestions please tell us or contact Lisa, our Parish Clerk clerk@wondershparish.org

The Swift project - Kate has been assured that the swift boxes will be installed before the next nesting season however Hampshire swifts (who will be doing the installations) report that they are very busy at the moment and the likely date has now moved to December/January for the first stage. Those who have signed up will soon be receiving a questionnaire which will help to confirm which locations are suitable. Sorry for the delay

Tree planting - We are planting some more trees this winter to add to the 16 trees that were planted in January. Another crab apple and hawthorn are to be planted on Hullmead common, a flowering cherry is to go on the common by Easteds, and a crab apple by Sue Porter's bench near the playground. After much deliberation we have also chosen some disease resistant elms to eventually replace the horse chestnuts which are in decline on Duck Pond Green. We will plant the elms soon to give them time to get established before the horse chestnuts have to be felled. Many of these new trees have kindly been donated. The trees planted in January 2022 can be found at Hullmead and Lords Hill and links to maps are at <https://www.shamleygreenenvironment.co.uk/trees>



Tree management - Members of SGEG tree working group regularly (about every three months) walk around and check on the trees on the common land on behalf of Womersh Parish Council. Anyone can do this of course. If you have any suggestions or concerns about the trees on Shamley Green common land please let us or the parish council know. Any urgent safety issues should be reported directly to clerk@womershparish.org Waverley, as the landowners, have ultimate responsibility for the trees and any tree work required needs to be done by qualified insured contractors. Something Else - We are considering whether it might be fun to have a get together and walk around, once spring has sprung and have a look at the areas where all the planting has taken place over the last 2 years and also look at the new mowing regimes, and then end up in the pub. We'll keep you posted!

Ponds - Work has now begun on the ditches feeding the duck pond and we obviously hope this will lead to improvements. Weather conditions will no doubt continue to present a challenge but we really hope to see a better flow into the pond going forward. We now have a pond depth gauge and several rain gauges and although neither affect the rainfall it is nice to have some recordings to better understand how our ponds are working. There is more work planned, for up to date info go to [Ponds | Shamley Green Environment Group](#) For your information the rainfall at Norley Farm in July was 3.75 mm, August 48.85 mm, September 62.28 mm and October 104.83 mm. I wonder what is to come!

Members - SGEG is always open to suggestions and anyone is welcome to join us. The SGEG committee will remain at 8 -10 people but people come and go. The main requirement is enthusiasm and the ability to work as a team but expertise is always welcome. SGEG regularly seek out expert opinion and are very grateful to those who have given us valuable time and advice.

We are really grateful to those who volunteer and support us. Thanks to the many of you who helped with the Himalayan Balsam picking this summer. The main challenge was combating the prolific stinging nettles. I think most of us know what himalayan balsam looks like now so we can remove it when we see it along the lanes but don't forget your gloves. Thanks also to those who have helped to clear footpaths and water the new trees.



SGEG is keen to promote any environmental initiatives in the village. We have collected crisp packets and taken part in national environmental projects like the plastic, bird and butterfly counts and the results are on our website. It would be good to do much more for the environment as a village. Perhaps we could all try to buy more local produce and also to eat what is in season. Any ideas about projects **you** would like to get involved in or promote are very welcome.

Environmental Projects on common land normally need Wonersh Parish Council approval which can be a little frustrating at times but this process keeps it democratic and the alternative is that everyone just does as they please. The Parish Council have the unenviable job of finding contractors which at the moment seems to be extremely difficult and time consuming.

Website - We have a new Gardens page [Gardens | Shamley Green Environment Group](#) which has lots of ideas about wildlife friendly gardening and we have a 'Valuing what We Have' page. [Valuing What We Have | Shamley Green Environment Group](#) Please could anyone who has repurposed anything and has some good pictures of before and after send them in, we would love to have a good collection of ideas.

Our News page has our latest news. The most recent post is about a volunteering opportunity which is being organised by Surrey Wildlife Trust - Helping with Coppicing at Cucknell's Wood. Thanks to David Beadman for passing that on to us. [News | Shamley Green Environment Group](#)

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Coppicing in Cucknell's Wood - help needed!

Coppicing work in the winter months, outside the bird nesting season, is a great alternative to a trip to the gym! Good exercise in a lovely environment.

see www.shamleygreenenvironment.co.uk/news for more information



Please do keep looking at the website and encourage others to do so or to join our mailing list. There is so much on it about the wildlife we are lucky enough to have in Shamley Green.

Thanks so much for your support.

best wishes

All members of SGEG

If you wish to be taken off the mailing list please just inform us