

SGEG - Spot the Difference

Those out and about might have noticed a few changes in the Shamley Green landscape in February. Some things have been added and some taken away. They are all good news for our wildlife and probably our wellbeing as well.

The following have been spotted - 250 new trees for a hedgerow planted by Wonersh & Shamley Green School, along the footpath in the woodland leading to Nursery Hill – “set to become a wildlife haven for birds, small mammals and insects”

1000 mixed variety hedge saplings planted by volunteers in a beautiful field which borders Stroud Lane. A lot of new hedge planting and hedge laying done by landowners along Norley lane, and Northcote Lane.



Shamley Green (and the whole of Wonersh Parish) falls inside the 5km boundary buffer zone of a Surrey Wildlife Trust project called Heathland Connections. This project is looking to restore and create as many different types of habitats as possible including wildlife corridors.

Hedges can provide vital corridors for our wildlife to feed, breed and take cover, and planted along the roadside they can help to shore up the banks, prevent soil erosion, improve air quality and slow down the flow of rainwater. Planting a variety of native species adds to biodiversity partly because it provides a varied food source at differing times of the year.

So what has been taken away? At least 45 bags of rubbish have been collected from some of the roads leading to Shamley Green. Thanks so much to the brave volunteers who helped over three 90 minute litter picks. We found mainly cans and plastic and glass bottles but also shoes, cd players, nitrous oxide canisters, loo seats and of course lots of shiny wrappers. Also, quite a few hedge guards which should have been removed by those who put them on as they are not biodegradable. If you are happy to help another time please do let us know.

If you have spotted anything which impressed you please tell us.

<https://www.shamleygreenenvironment.co.uk>

The toad migration will be nearing its end by the time you read this, It started with a rush on the 21st February but stopped during a spell of cold weather before starting again on 5th March.

We are hoping that we will spot lot of toad and frogspawn in the spring and then maybe some swifts arriving in May and visiting some of the 60 or so swift boxes in the village. Fingers crossed.