



# Winter newsletter

inspiring people, improving places



**Our first Big Green Weekend** took place at the end of October and what a fantastic time we had. The sun shone (for most of our events) and hundreds of families and supporters turned up to join in the fun, learn more about BTCV and even turn their hands to some new crafts.

Events took place across the UK and Europe, all showcasing the charity's work. To add to the fun and raise well needed funds for our work, schools, volunteers and supporters across the whole country were invited to take part in a sponsored **Tree-sure Hunt** in their local parks and woodlands.

**Please make a note to join us for our Big Green Weekend in 2012.**

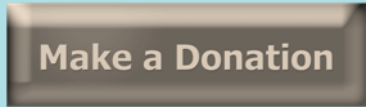
For over 50 years BTCV has been busy transforming lives, building communities and working with volunteers to improve and protect their local parks, woodland and green spaces.

Every year our volunteers work tirelessly with communities to revive and protect their local environment. Without your ongoing support this work will stop and these precious green places will be lost. Help us create a better environment for everyone by donating to BTCV.

**Text BTCV to 70003 to donate £3**

**or make online donations via our website [www.btcv.org/donate](http://www.btcv.org/donate)**

Text costs £3 plus network charge. BTCV receives 100% of your donation. Please obtain bill payers permission





## Green Flag Applications for 2012 Close on 31st January

**Make sure your community group doesn't miss out!**

The Green Flag Community Award is the national standard used to recognise and reward high quality green spaces managed by voluntary and community groups.

We know that many of you are doing fantastic work creating and managing green spaces in your local communities. This is your chance to get your activities recognised, raise the profile of your group and site and get some **FREE** support from BTCV to plan your work and activities.

Interested, but not sure if you qualify or what is involved? Don't worry BTCV is here to help. You can find further information and guidance at [www.btcv.org.uk/greenflag](http://www.btcv.org.uk/greenflag). We have a national team on hand to give advice and guidance and local BTCV Community Advocates across the country who can come out and support you to apply for an award.

BTCV Community advocates can offer bespoke **FREE** support to community groups in England to apply. Email [npt@btcv.org.uk](mailto:npt@btcv.org.uk) to find out how.

**Any group that applies before 10th January - new or existing - will be put in a draw to have 10 chances to win a £10 voucher for the BTCV on-line shop**

**This includes those who have already applied since November.**



Why stop at applying for an award, when you could become a Green Flag Judge?

All of the Green Flag Judges are volunteers and come from all walks of life. BTCV is passionate about raising the profile of community involvement within the awards and broadening the experiences of the judging panel. We would love more of our volunteers and community network members to become judges.

Interested? Want to find out more? Get in touch and start helping others get involved with their green space and shape the awards for the future.

Email [npt@btcv.org.uk](mailto:npt@btcv.org.uk) to find out more



**The New Community Hub** has been developed just for you with your group in mind.

The hub is a place where you can log your group members, task days and activities and produce reports to show your progress. Inside the hub is the Resource Bank which contains lots of useful documents to help your group to get started and continue your good work. From here you can request a website, form a constitution, download risk assessment templates and access Health and Safety information along with advice and assistance with our insurance policies underwritten by Zurich. Also listed in the Resource Bank is a link to **GRANTnet**. GRANTnet is a funding database powered by GrantFinder which allows your group to search across a huge range of funding sources.

**To register for the Community Hub Please email [local-groups@btcv.org.uk](mailto:local-groups@btcv.org.uk) or call 01302 388883**

**\*DISCOUNTS\*DISCOUNTS\***



**10% Off  
All  
Trees**

Discount applies to all purchases from our online shop including tools, plants, trees and flowers, BTCV merchandise, books and holidays. Please quote your group ID number when ordering to receive your discount. [www.btcv.org/shop](http://www.btcv.org/shop)

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**HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**