

newsletter

inspiring people, improving places



The BBC Wild night in was held on Sunday 20th June and it was a massive success raising **£1 Million!** This will make a huge difference to threatened wildlife around the world. A

Big thank you to all the community groups who raised money for the BBC Wildlife Fund. If you would still like to do some joint fundraising please register your interest by emailing BTCV's Community Network Department at local-groups@btcv.org.uk or telephone 01302 388834. Please forward your collected donations before 30 September 2010. If you would like any further information on the BBC appeal please log on to www.bbc.co.uk/wild



You're invited to a very Big Lunch!

The Big Lunch invites you to sit down and have lunch with your neighbours, in the middle of your street, on **Sunday 18th July**. Last year 730,000 people ate at 8,000 Lunches all across the UK – the biggest set of street parties since the Golden Jubilee. The Big Lunch is a great excuse to bring people together in the community and BTCV groups can use it as an opportunity to launch a new project, raise awareness of their work, recruit new volunteers or even raise funds. They can either hold a Big Lunch as a group or encourage members to hold a Big Lunch in their own streets to raise awareness of their work more widely. It's really easy to get involved - for free Big Lunch, tips, inspiration and resources, and to register your Big Lunch visit www.thebiglunch.com, have a chat with the team on 0845 850 8181 or email info@thebiglunch.com

Green Heroes

BTCV Green Hero Awards 2010

Does your community group help look after your local environment?

Have you made a difference to a local green place and improved the area for the benefit of both wildlife and people? Have you involved people from different backgrounds and inspired others to learn more about the environment and to live greener lifestyles?

If so, it's time you got some recognition!

BTCV launches its 5th Green Heroes awards on **1st July** and is calling on local environmental groups to take part. The BTCV Green Hero Awards are a great way to celebrate the sustained contribution that your group has made to your community over many years, or to mark the recent completion of a project of which you are especially proud.

There's a wide variety of categories open to BTCV's 300,000 volunteers and there is also a new Community Group of the Year for ANY community group undertaking conservation or environmental work.

Enter the BTCV Green Hero Awards NOW!

- * for a chance to acknowledge the hard work and achievements of your volunteers
- * for great local and national publicity
- * for awards of up to £500 for your group.

To enter the Green Hero Awards visit www.btcv.org or email greenheroes@btcv.org.uk

The closing date is Monday August 16th

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RHS Hampton Court Flower Show – 5-11 July 2010

BTCV's Carbon Army will be in attendance at Hampton Court Flower Show encouraging visitors to join our climate change campaign.

BTCV will be hosting a stand which will encourage people to consider the links between food and the environment. There will be three main elements to the stand. Visitors will be able to pop a pea and try the taste of fresh, seasonal produce. We'll also be giving away beetroot seeds with BTCV Carbon Army branding to give away.

Make sure you come and visit us if you're attending. Our stand no. is C/61

BTCV's Grow Your Own Food Guide

This FREE guide is available to help you get the best from food and reduce the impact on our environment. This colourful, handy booklet is crammed with tips and advice on:

- Growing your own tasty fruit and vegetables
- Eating with the seasons
- Reducing waste
- Buying locally produced food
- Foraging for wild food in the hedgerows and woods
- Joining local community food growing projects.

Plus mouth-watering recipes from **Charlie Dimmock, Julia Bradbury and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall.**

To get your free guide follow the link to our website and complete the online form.

<http://www2.btcv.org.uk/display/freefoodguide>

Green Flag

Has your local green space been nominated for a prestigious Green Flag award? If so, watch this space as winners will be announced in the next newsletter.



Love Parks Week 2010

This year's Love Parks Week, organised by parks charity GreenSpace, will take place between Saturday 24 July and Sunday 1 August.

Throughout Love Parks Week there will be scheduled events in some of the UK's best-loved parks and green spaces, providing a wide range of fun activities for all of the community to get involved in. There are already over 400 events registered, ranging from festivals, family fun days and concerts, to dog shows, poetry readings, health walks and play days.

This is the fifth year that GreenSpace have held the campaign, and in 2010 the focus is on encouraging as many people as possible to get into parks to join our campaign for continued investment and support for these valuable assets.

Visit www.loveparksweek.org.uk for more information and to find out what's on in your local area.

New Environmental Training Network Programme

The new ETN June 2010 – March 2011 Training Programme is now available.

You will receive a copy with your next membership renewal letter or alternatively it can be accessed online at: <http://shop.btcv.org.uk/etn>



BTCV is keen to hear your stories. We're often contacted by journalists looking to interview volunteers. If BTCV has made a difference to your community group and you wish to share your success and help raise BTCV's profile, then don't hesitate to get in touch. Email pressoffice@btcv.org.uk or phone 01302 388833.

Have you got a story or achievement you would like to share with the community network? Our website now has an area dedicated to community group news and events <http://www2.btcv.org.uk/display/networknews>.

If you would like your news published then please email local-groups@btcv.org.uk with your story and photographs.

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