

England's Community Forests

Trees for Climate case study

- Greenwood Community Forest
- Caunton, Nottinghamshire
- Floral Media
- Partners: The Sherwood Forest Trust, Southwell Lions and local volunteers



Paula and Steven Routledge from Floral Media, Nottinghamshire

“We have always wanted our own woodland and we can’t believe that’s it’s really happening”

Habitat, people and lasting legacy

Horticulturalists Paula and Steven Routledge supply sustainably grown British cut flowers and offer garden open days and events at their 15-acre home and plant nursery in rural Nottinghamshire.

An opportunity to buy additional arable farmland has allowed the couple to fulfil their dream of creating their own woodland.

The woodland includes a wide circular walking trail for their family, dogs and visitors to enjoy in future years. Areas of long grass, shrubby planting, path edges and open spaces will burst with spring bulbs and native wildflowers.

Paula hopes to integrate evergreen foliage and spring tree blossoms within her award-winning floral arrangements and designs. Through their new woodland, the couple aim to deliver additional wildlife habitat.

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Nottinghamshire's Community Forest bringing Sherwood Forest to your doorstep

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Summary of the project

At the heart of the local community Floral Media opened its doors to friends, neighbours, and local groups in March 2023 for a community tree planting day. Volunteers planted over 1,800 trees to create the new small native woodland covering 1.82 hectares.

Over 45 volunteers including members of the local community group, Southwell Lions, joined staff from the Sherwood Forest Trust to plant trees.

Trees species, in keeping with the local character area for Nottinghamshire, included English Oak, Silver Birch, Field Maple, Crab Apple, Rowan and Hazel. Floral Media was supported by woodland creation teams at Greenwood Community Forest and the Sherwood Forest Trust to help implement and fund the project.

Steven and Paula have coined the new addition to their home the 'field of dreams' and the new woodland is now named 'Kings Wood' in celebration of the coronation of King Charles III.

Project impact

Enhancing wildlife:

The creation of different habitats will enhance and protect the biodiversity of this farming landscape making a more resilient natural environment.

Public access and management: Additional access to this previously private land holding will allow greater opportunities for local communities and schools to access nature

Contribution to Net Zero:

This scheme contributes to nature-based solutions as part of an array of actions needed to reach the UK government target of net zero carbon by 2050.

Innovation and business diversification

Paula and Steven hope to include the new woodland setting within their garden tours and educational events and courses in future years at Floral Media.

Engagement, health and wellbeing:

The woodland is an undertaking for the future and a legacy to pass on to future generations at the family home. Working sustainably and in tune with nature is a very important consideration for Paula and Steven.

They welcome family and visitors to spend time outside at Floral Media, engaging with nature and enjoying the natural environment.



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Volunteers from local community group Southwell Lions

Greenwood Community Forest

www.greenwoodforest.org.uk

Email greenwood@nottscc.gov.uk

Phone 0115 9932600

Tree shelters will help protect the new trees from deer, rabbits and hares.



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