

TREE WARDENS

If you have a love of trees and a little spare time then the County Council would like to hear from you.

Kent County Council is anxious to recruit still more volunteers to become tree wardens in their civil parish. This scheme is supported by the 'Replant the Garden of England' Trust Fund set up in the wake of the October 1987 storm.

Councillor Brenda Trench, Chairman of the County Council's Environment Subcommittee, said: "Parish tree wardens with their local knowledge have a vital role to play but the work isn't excessively time consuming.

"A little spare time, enthusiasm and a love of trees are the main requirements. Training courses are available.

I do hope more people will offer their services so that before long every parish in the county will have its own warden."

Anyone interested should contact either their Parish Council or Nick Brown on 0622 (Maidstone) 671411 ext 6400.

TREE PLANTING GRANTS

Grants of 30% for hedgerows, 40 or 50% for trees are available for approved schemes of over £200. Preference will be given to the planting of native species. All must be visible to the public when full grown.

For further details and an application form contact:

TONY CHILD, STORM RECOVERY ADVISER,
LAND AND COUNTRYSIDE
LAND AND PROPERTY, KENT COUNTY COUNCIL,
SPRINGFIELD, MAIDSTONE,



White Cliffs Countyside Project

The White Cliffs Project has been formed to help care for the countryside around Dover and Folkestone, and make it more accessible to people. The local authorities have joined in partnership with the Countryside Commission, Nature Conservancy Council, Kent Trust for Nature Conservation and Eurotunnel, with the aim of managing the chalk grasslands to benefit wildlife and provide a place for quiet enjoyment by local people and visitors alike. We hope to improve footpaths to provide a clearly way-marked network, including circular walks and guided walks. The project is part of a larger programme of environmental improvements to attract tourists and new industry to Dover.

We will initially concentrate efforts on Dover's Western Heights. We will be gradually reintroducing grazing, using a rare breed of cattle, the Dexter. This will entail fencing areas of the Western Heights, but it is emphasised that everyone will still be welcome to wander. Kissing gates will be installed at all existing entrances. All we ask is that dogs are controlled when livestock are present. Some simple improvements to footpaths and waymarking will make for safe and pleasant walking. We intend to provide leaflets and interpretation boards to explain about the historical wildlife and geological attractions of the area.

You can help us protect the local countryside. We need local people to watch over areas like the Western Heights to discourage vandalism, flytipping and dogs attacking livestock. We need volunteers to help with practical conservation work. We need local experts to lead guided walks, and people interested in natural history to survey and monitor the effects of management on wildlife.

If you would like to know more about the White Cliffs Project, or would like to help, please contact Kirk Alexander at 6 Cambridge Terrace, Dover (Telephone 241806).

ARTSWORK 1990

The TVS/British Telecom Artswork scheme is partly funding a photographic project in Dover this term. Financial support is also coming from South East Arts and Kent County Library.

Artswork aims to encourage new initiatives and opportunities in the arts for young people, and helps them to present their work to a wider audience and to contribute to the life of the community.

The Dover project will be led by teachers. Ray Wilkinson from St. Edmunds R.C. High School and Tony Goodwin from Astor High. The aim is to record Dover as it is now through the eyes of its teenagers who will be encouraged to input their own ideas and choose their own subjects and approaches. The artistic quality of the photographs is very important to the two project leaders and it is intended that the work will eventually form a travelling exhibition, which it is hoped, will be shown at a meeting of the Dover Society, amongst other venues.

A selection of the photographs will be housed permanently in the local history collection at Dover Library.

The schools and the Library Service are very excited about this project which will involve a professional photographer to work alongside the teachers and pupils to enable a new look to be taken at the town. The young people will be asked to make their own contacts in the community and may be approaching Dover Society members for help and information.

Maggi Waite Committee Member