



Our Veteran Tree Database was closed in June 2024. The **8,696** trees and **13,976** photos are detailed on our [map](#).

Welcome to the latest issue of Tree Watch.

We've had some extreme weather this year, with water shortage in the summer followed by deluges. It was important to see newly planted trees didn't suffer from lack of water, and that's exactly what Sarah Swatridge did in Charvil, as described on page 3. Many trees and bushes have abundant fruit already, but will that fruit be available when the birds need it. It's definitely a mast year for oak trees. The many acorns crunch underfoot when walking and drop on the car roof when driving.



We're also promised some brilliant autumn colours. The lovely red oak shown here is one of our veterans (MRN [3963](#)) and is also in our Commemorative and Special Trees Inventory. It's in Finchampstead, on the green area adjacent to St James' church and was planted to commemorate the silver jubilee of King George V in 1935. Although it was only planted in 1935, it has been classified as 'veteran' by the Ancient Tree Inventory (record [65970](#)).

Unfortunately, we've had some very sad news. Patricia Green died this month. See page 6.

The next issue of Tree Watch will be February 2026 and the copy deadline is 31st January.

If you have any comments or responses to anything in this issue or contributions for future issues please send them to:

Elaine Butler - TreeWatch @ wdvta.org.uk

Don't forget words underlined in dark green are links to further details (obviously not when printed).

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Events – October 2025-February 2026

- ❖ Autumn (September – November *tbc*) visit to Harcourt Arboretum – daytime walk. Please register interest in attending this event via our [website](#).
- ❖ Winter walk – details will be circulated and on the website when confirmed.

Non-WDVT events:

- ❖ Thursday 9th October 18:00 Linnean Society, London - ‘*Being Tree-ish: Notes on The Genius of Trees*’ see [web](#) for details and booking.
- ❖ Saturday 11th October 10:30 Harris Gardens, UoR - Reading Tree Wardens autumn walk: Medicinal Trees led by Linda Bostock. Email rtwn2011@gmail.com
- ❖ 22nd September - 22nd October - Tree Council seasonal campaign – [seed gathering](#)
- ❖ 27th November - 5th December - National Tree Week – check Tree Council [web page](#) and press for events

For up-to-date information - see the events page on our website – wdvta.org.uk/events.php

PARISH/TOWN ACTIVITY – MEMBERS’ REPORTS

CHARVIL - Sarah Swatridge

The photo right shows Charvil's Anniversary Elm which is benefiting from being watered (unlike the surrounding grasses that make it look as though it's in the Serengeti).



This tree is [W119](#) in our Commemorative and Special Trees Inventory. It's one of 30 disease-resistant elms from the Tree Council to celebrate their 30th anniversary. See the November 2020 [issue](#) of Tree Watch (page 47). The photos left show the tree when planted in January 2021 (with Claire Anderson) and in June 2023.



In the summer edition of the ‘[Charvil Village News](#)’ (page 40), Sarah has a Tree Warden page highlighting the need to water newly planted trees in the hot summer “With the current hot weather, I've been trying my best to water the recently planted trees in the area. The first five years after planting are the most important. Looking after them during this time really gets them off to a good start. It's not easy to get access to water at the moment as the rivers and streams are so low, so imagine my delight when The Tree Council offered 'Please Water Me' labels. I have begun to attach these to young trees in the area that do need watering in dry spells. Perhaps, if you're on your way home and still have some water in your water bottle, maybe you could empty it on these trees? It all helps. I haven't been watering the community orchard as there are a team of volunteers who regularly do a marvellous job. There is water harvesting at Charvil Village Hall, although I dare say the tanks are low at the moment.”



There are also articles about the Charvil Community Orchard on pages 9 and 32 of the Village News.

EARLEY -

In the [March](#) issue of Tree Watch (page 3), there was a request for help to maintain the [Earley Community Orchard](#) in Laurel Park. Its maintenance is now the joint responsibility of the Earley Environmental Group (EEG) and Freely Fruity. Both organisations will provide volunteers, with Freely Fruity providing expertise on the care and pruning of the trees. Matt Knight of Freely Fruity has joined the EEG committee. There's also a new orchard in Swallows Meadows, with Freely Fruity providing about 60 young trees and bushes, including crab apple, cherry and pear trees, and geulder rose bushes. See the EEG [Newsletter](#) for photos and more details.

Other Local News

Woodford Park in Woodley has been [awarded](#) the Green Flag Award for the 8th year running.

In Winnersh, WBC's refusal to allow tree removal was featured by [BBC News](#).

There's a revised [interactive map](#) and "full list of all 29 Nature parks available for you to visit and explore". One of these 29 is 'The Grove' which has "no formal access"!

WALNUT TREES

One of our newer members is particularly interested in walnut trees. In the photo below, she is standing under the large Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*) in [Caversham Court Gardens](#).

THE VARIED LIFE OF A TREE WARDEN

Sarah Swatridge

It's probably fair to say that there are never two months the same as a Tree Warden. It's likely to be true too that the role is different in each of the Wokingham Borough areas.

Here are some of the things that have been going on in Charvil over the summer.

I was approached by a resident who had concerns about a Field Maple that had been planted in about 1973 outside her home. A large branch had recently fallen and when she looked, there were several other dead branches.

I went to see for myself and to take photographs. Overall, the tree seemed healthy, certainly not in decline. However, there were a number of dead branches at the centre. A car was parked beneath the tree which could potentially be damaged by a falling branch. I reported it to the parish council but it wasn't their responsibility so I contacted the Borough. The tree was part of their annual check; it had been seen recently and was of no concern. I fed back to the resident who will monitor it.

Obviously, with the dry weather, watering the young trees that have been planted in recent years has been a priority. In Charvil the orchard is watered by a team of volunteers using rainwater harvesting from the village hall. Claire Andersen and I divided up several areas between us to make it more manageable. The introduction of 'Please Water Me' labels from the Tree Council, although time consuming initially, is helping to get more residents involved.

I photographed a label and wrote up a short piece for Charvil Village News to alert residents to young trees near them, in need of watering and encourage everyone to get involved. [See above.]

I received a message via the WDVTA website from another resident with concerns about a recent tree that was felled. The tree was on private property and there was no TPO in force. The resident was upset; I listened to her concerns. Primarily she wanted to protect a beautiful oak. She and her neighbour have now decided to apply for a TPO to protect this oak tree which is on public land.

For some years Tree Wardens have been monitoring Ash trees in their area for signs of decline. Each August I take a photo of one particular tree from the same spot. Unfortunately, many trees had to be felled due to Ash Dieback only a short distance away in Twyford.

If this little insight is of interest, you may want to consider becoming a Tree Warden. You don't need to be an expert. You soon learn where to turn for advice.

Contact [Stephen Loyd](#) for more details. We specifically need Tree Wardens in Sonning.



There's a Chinese Walnut (*Juglans cathayensis*) in the grounds of Reading University. It's #25 on the [Whiteknights Tree Walk](#).

We only have one in our veteran tree database, MRN [8117](#) in a private garden in Woodley.

If you know of any others, please let me know and I'll pass on the information.



In the [last issue](#) (page 7), I mentioned Emma Major's art displayed as part of the Reading Guild of Artists display. Shown here is another delightful piece that I particularly liked.

It was one of the pieces exhibited by the BA Education Students Class of 2025, with thanks to them for giving me permission to include it here.

PROTECTING A NOTABLE OAK TREE IN WOOSEHILL MEADOWS IN WOKINGHAM TOWN

Barbara Stagles

On Saturday morning, June 14th 2025, a party of volunteers from the Woosehill Meadows and Emm Brook Conservation group led by Jürgen Adam, built a wattle fence around this significant but threatened old oak tree. This was to protect its roots from compaction resulting from footfall from a nearby popular path through Woosehill Meadows, close to the Emm Brook.

Soil compaction can damage a tree's roots and inhibit its ability to absorb water, oxygen and nutrients. This is because when the soil is compacted, the population of beneficial micro-organisms (mycorrhizae/fungi and bacteria) that help make nutrients available for the tree to absorb, is reduced.



In April 2009 this tree was recorded as MRN **262** in our veteran tree survey - details and photos:-

Record Number: 262 (Recorder: WT27)

Grid reference: SU 79855 68777

English Oak (Maiden, Alive - standing)

Girth: 3.35m at 1.50m on 14-Apr-09

Setting: Public or Open Space + Bridlepath / Footpath



On 16th June 2025 new photos (below) of the tree were taken from roughly the same spot.



In contrast to the 2009 photos, these new pictures show how the wattle fence is shielding the base of the trunk which originally stood right up against the edge of the footpath. The protected area is probably not stretching as far as the underground roots on path side of the tree, but the proximity of the Emm Brook prevented volunteers from moving the footpath any further from the tree to make the exclusion area wider. It is to be hoped, however, that this new protection area will go some way towards helping conserve the tree's future health. Major branches have been lost as shown in the photo near right (taken in June 2025) showing the pruned sites. The far right photo (taken in February 2025) shows the tree lean and site of branch removal.



In 2009 the tree's girth was recorded as 3.35m at approximately 1.30m. In 2025 the recorded girth was 3.53m. This is a small increase of approximately 18cm. As described in the WDVTA [Survey Handbook](#) the mean increase in girth of

mature trees with a full crown and growing in a good condition is 2.5cm per year. This would suggest that after 16 years the girth should have increased by about 40cm. However the measurements suggest it had grown by less than half of that. Even allowing that these were amateur recordings, it still suggests that the tree may be growing at a less than the usual rate.

Over the years, guidelines have been drawn up to estimate the age of trees from the size of their girth. These vary according to the species of tree. The WDVTA Survey Handbook provides a detailed account of this matter and includes a chart which focuses especially on oak trees (page 6-3). Assuming that the tree is growing in 'an average garden park' the estimate of age for this tree could be about 170 years old, certainly no more than 200 years.

This tree is recorded as number [46325](#) in the national Ancient Tree Inventory which maps the oldest and most important trees in the UK. In this it is classified as 'notable' rather than 'veteran' or 'ancient'. Whilst the classification is important for professional arboricultural purposes there is nothing to stop this, or any tree, being known popularly as a veteran.

SQUIRRELS LIKE OAK TREE BARK

In the [last issue](#) (page 4) Derek Oxbridge asked why a young oak tree (Jubilee Oak 27) would lose its bark from two thirds up the trunk.

We had two responses. Both Dave Kenny and Steve Radford suggested squirrel damage. Dave explained they nibble the bark usually high up. There has been a spate of this happening at Prospect Park over the years, a whole avenue of oaks was damaged in this same way by squirrels. The worst affected oaks have been close to woodland, and it looks from the photos of the Barkham tree that might also be the case there. For some reason a squirrel has taken a fancy to that particular tree, unfortunately.

TREE OF THE YEAR 2025

The results of this year's Tree of the Year has just been announced (on September 26th). It's Glasgow's [Argyle Street Ash](#) and was described on Radio 4's Today Programme as 'one of the most graceful ashes I've seen'. It grows in front of Franklin Terrace. Estimated to be about 170 years old, it is managed as an example of urban resilience and was chosen for its cultural, ecological, and historical significance. Read its [story](#) on the Woodland Trust website.

The BBC [account](#) includes a video showing its surroundings and an archive photo from 1962.



[By Talesfromthecanopy - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0](#)

There were 10 trees on the shortlist. The Woodland Trust website doesn't have photos and details of them all, but the [countryliving](#) website does (best viewed if you have a good ad-blocker).

PATRICIA GREEN 1934 - 2025

Patricia was a wonderful person and a really good friend. She died earlier this month. Her death is still a shock, as it will be to anyone who knew her and perhaps is only now hearing about it. She collapsed after getting out of her car on August 1st, was admitted to hospital the following day and didn't recover. Until that day she was busy, active and involved in many local activities, as she had been all her life. She was, in so many ways, a real contributor to our local community.

She was a landscape architect, working for Berkshire County Council for many years and then as a private consultant. She particularly enjoyed designing school grounds to emphasise environmental aspects of education. She belonged to BBOWT and was an active member of the Reading Urban Wildlife Group until it was disbanded in 2014. It did various habitat surveys and, amongst other projects, designed and constructed a wildlife pond in Woodley. That pond had been sadly neglected and she was very pleased to see it restored when the Bulmershe site was developed. With the designation of the 'Strategic Development Location' in Shinfield, she scrutinised development plans and commented on their environmental consequences. She helped produce the Spencers Wood Village Character Statement and Shinfield's Parish and Community Plans. Shinfield has several walks [leaflets](#) which were instigated by Patricia and she contributed to all of them.

She was also an very active member of the [Spencers Wood Local History Group](#), contributing to many of their publications and manning stalls at local events, always attracting interest with their photo display of Spencers Wood in by-gone days. She belonged to book clubs, walking groups and so much more.

Always interested and appreciative of trees, Patricia was a founder member of WDVTA and the Shinfield coordinator for our veteran tree survey. She recorded 814 trees in Shinfield, that's 60% of those recorded in that parish and 9% of all the trees recorded in our database. They include the 38 Wellingtonias in the avenue in Spencers Wood (*photo left*), one of four Wellingtonia avenues in the Borough. She was the chairman of the coordinators group and often contributed to Tree Watch. A regular visitor to the Harris Gardens (University of Reading), she reported on their Wollemi Pine in last March's issue. In other issues, she described her [favourite](#) tree, the Wellingtonia (Aug 2013), a favourite book, 'Around the World in 80 Trees' by Jonathan Dori (May 2019) and recommended 'Orchard A Year in England's Eden' by Benedict Macdonald and Nicholas Gates (Nov 2021). Her article on the Cashmir Cypress (Nov 2011) resulted in an email from someone living on Merseyside, who'd read her article and was interested in her photo because he'd previously visited the tree. He subsequently sent us a piece for Tree Watch (Nov 2012) and a [video](#) of the tree. Her profile is in the May 2011 [issue](#) (p. 4).



We've had several tributes from WDVTA members. Many have commented on how they enjoyed her company and respected her opinions in meetings. Barbara Stables, the original WDVTA chairman, said *"I would like say how valuable was Patricia's interest and support for the set up and development of the Borough wide veteran tree survey from its inception. She was always such a friendly and thoughtful member of the team and her presence at meetings will be very much missed."* It definitely will be.

THATCHAM REEDBEDS

Thatcham Reedbeds (RG19 3FU) are only a relatively short drive away but provide a super place to escape for a few hours. It's run by the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) and includes, not only reedbeds, but a nature reserve and a super Lakeside cafe. There are also picnic tables available and their own orchard.

We visited in August 2025 and at the time, the parking was free but you can make a donation via the machine in the car park.

There is plenty of parking and the paths are generally good but not tarmacked. There are wildlife trails, walking routes, three lakes, reedbeds, nature reserve, woodland areas, an orchard and cafe. At the cafe, as well as drinks, ice creams, cakes and small savoury snacks, you can also buy duck food. There is also a look-out area at tree canopy level. I think there might be a charge for this.



The hedgerows are well managed and abundant. In the orchard I saw rose hips and sloes (*photo left*). There was a good variety of bird cover, nesting material and sources of food (berries, seeds and nuts). The orchard has a variety of trees, including a 'Winston' variety of apple tree which originated in Slough (*photo below right*).

The cafe has indoor and outdoor seating, with some of the outside seating shaded beneath a veranda. There is a gift shop selling books and BBOWT merchandise. There are small tables with colouring activities for children, a large map of the area and information boards. We passed a couple of bird hides and there are various information boards around plus a playground, toilets, private fishing lake and the Discovery Centre. Mobility scooters are available for hire and dogs are welcome (on a lead in the cafe, shop and nature reserve).

Open Tues to Sun 10am to 4pm, closed Mondays except during school holidays.

If you're interested in reedbeds in particular, Simon Bartlam (WBC Countryside Officer) has been working to increase the area of reedbeds in Wokingham Borough.

Sandford Country Park (also known as Loddon Park) in Woodley is host to a large area offering good habitat for frogs, grass snakes, reed warblers and he's hoping bitterns will breed here in the next few years. There are smaller reed-bed areas managed by Wokingham Borough and Simon's team in **Dinton Pastures** and **Charvil Country Park**. You can watch a short YouTube [video](#) - 'Reedbeds in Wokingham: Nature's Unsung Heroes' and read about the new reedbeds in **Charvil** in Emma Merchant's new weekly 'Naturally Speaking' column 'Wokingham Today'.

[Incidentally, you might like to watch another short [video](#) about Dinton Pastures - 'How we're encouraging swifts to nest at Dinton Pastures' - Ed]



" We know more about the movement of celestial bodies than about the soil underfoot"

Leonardo da Vinci (1500)

WDVTA HEDGEROW WALK

There was a good turnout and great weather for our walk this month, as shown in this photo. On 22nd September, Stephen Loyd, our Lead Tree Warden, led an afternoon hedgerow walk along St Patrick's Stream, which runs between the Thames and the Loddon through Charvil and Twyford. Stephen was involved in laying some of the hedging on this site twenty five years ago.

You can read an account of the walk on the WDVTA [FaceBook](#) page and see more photos on our [Google Drive](#) site.



Veteran Tree Survey snapshot

TREES RECORDED BY PARISH

2

>1000 trees
(Shinfield & Wokingham Town)

1

<100 trees
(Twyford)

2

>200 trees per km²
(Charvil & Twyford)

3

<50 trees per km²
(Finchampstead, Hurst,
Shinfield)

CIRCLE DANCING

Sarah Swatridge

I recently discovered Circle Dancing whilst at the Annual Unitarian Garden Party in Reading. Circle dancing is a very simple and repetitive dance which is also reflective and somehow like a form of meditation.

We learnt two Circle Dances. These go back thousands of years, in fact there is evidence of Circle dancing on cave paintings. It is therefore not surprising that they have their roots in nature. We did *The Cuckoo Song* and also *The Elm Tree*.

The Elm Tree circle dance was accompanied by a Latvian song sung by Leva Akuratere. Many members will remember the late Doreen Dye who was a founder member of WDVTA with a particular interest in the environment. She was also a Unitarian and attended the chapel on the corner of London Road and Denmark Road, Reading. Being interested in trees I'm sure she would have approved of *The Elm Tree* and we reflected on her life and other things, as we danced.

HOLIDAY TREES

Tree highlights from Tresco Abbey Gardens and the Isle of Scilly

Alison Griffin

Scilly has been on my bucket list for a long time and we had our first holiday there last year. It lived up to our high expectations. What I hadn't thought about though was that Dutch elm disease has not reached the islands, so there are mature elms along roadsides, a sight I have no memories of in England.

The Tresco Abbey gardens owe their existence to the foresight of planting Monterey pines and Monterey cypress trees along their western and northern edge to protect the south facing garden site from the salt laden Atlantic winds. We were there in June and the trees that I will remember are the Northern rata (*Metrosideros robusta*), native to New Zealand, which were at their flowering peak. Having seen and admired a couple of specimens which were stunning, we found several others because you could hear where they were. Yes, I do mean 'hear'. The islands are all so quiet you hear the insect and birds much more than at home and the insects around these flowering rata trees were so numerous we could hear them from 30 yards away before we could see the tree.



SPECIES IN FOCUS – NORTHERN RATA (*METROSIDEROS ROBUSTA*)

12 miscellaneous facts about the Northern Rata

1. The Northern Rata is a large tree found predominantly in coastal regions of the North Island of New Zealand, but also in the NW of the South Island.
2. It was once more widespread, being co-dominant with the coniferous Rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*) in the montane forests which covered much of the island.
3. Mature trees grow to a height of 25-30m, being one of New Zealand's tallest flowering trees, with wide spreading branches and bright red flowers (*photo below*). They are slow growing and can live for 1,000 years. The seeds take a year or more to ripen. Flowering peaks between November and January.
4. Although when mature they look like typical trees, in the forests they usually begin life as epiphytes. The seeds germinate in the canopy of other forest trees and the roots grow downwards until they reach the ground. As they grow, the roots fuse together, eventually encircling the host trunk, which decays, leaving a hollow rata trunk up to 4m in diameter – 12.5m girth. In the montane forests of North Island, Rimu is the main host. The photo above is a Northern Rata growing on a large black pine (local name: matai - *Prumnopitys taxifolia*) in Punakaiki on South Island. The pine has a diameter ~3.5m – a girth of nearly 11m.
5. Northern Rata seeds that germinate in soil (often in nurseries) grow into normal but short trunks, whereas the epiphytically grown ones have a trunk composed of fused roots.
6. Because they start life as epiphytes, but mature to stand-alone trees, they are called hemi-epiphytes (and colloquially 'stranglers').
7. Ratas make good hosts for other epiphytes, with ferns, lilies, orchids, shrubs and even small trees living in their canopy.
8. They provide food and shelter for a variety of wildlife. Bats and lizards feed on the flowers, which provide pollen for native bees and are a major source of nectar for honey bees and birds (especially bellbirds, kaka and tui).
9. It's classified as 'Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable'; being susceptible to myrtle rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*) an invasive fungus (first detected in New Zealand in 2017). Possums can seriously damage and kill ratas, and have been directly responsible for its regional loss in some places. As elsewhere, people damage the trees by using their branches for firewood, lighting fires under them and parking cars on their roots.
10. It will hybridise with both Southern Rata (*M. umbellata*) and Pohutukawa (*M. excelsa*). This poses another threat. Pohutukawa has become established well south of its natural southern limits, partly as a result of planting in parks and gardens, and because many plants sold as Northern Rata are really hybrids.
11. The mature Northern Rata is similar in appearance to the Southern Rata (*M. umbellatus*), which is found predominantly in the South Island of New Zealand and is only rarely epiphytic, usually growing from seed in the usual way. There's a good [video](#) explaining the differences between the two. The Southern Rata shown right is growing on a roadside opposite the seashore in Akaroa on South Island.
12. In Karamea, on the NW coast of South Island, there's a tall Northern Rata, with an unusual divided trunk. It looks as if it's striding across an empty field, reminiscent of an 'Ent' from 'Lord of the Rings'. It was voted New Zealand [tree of the year](#) in 2024.



RECOMMENDED READING, VIEWING AND LISTENING *Just click on the green links*

Lichens – a good video describing lichens– their structure, including 20th century discoveries, and their 4 methods of reproductions. Lichens can be described as ‘Fungi that have discovered agriculture.’

From Roots to Riches – Kathy Willis considers our changing relationship with plants over the last 250 years. First broadcast in 2014 (and recommended then). Audio - 30 episodes – 15 mins each / 5 omnibus episodes – 58 mins each

Basque Pollards – ATF webinar (1.5hr) - includes more general information and discussion of pollarding in UK.

Ash trees:

‘New hope’: ash trees rapidly evolving [resistance to dieback](#)

[Cockpit Path Community Orchard and Garden](#) in Wokingham Town – Radio Berkshire - 9 mins audio

Sycamore Gap tree:

Counting rings reveals Sycamore Gap tree [age range](#)

Chris Walters send this link - In Depth report 'The fate of the Sycamore Gap tree has shed light on a [deeper concern](#)'

Tree threatened and felled:

Climate change a growing problem as [power network cuts more trees](#)

[Gower woodland](#) which was illegally felled to become nature reserve (including before and after photos)

Protected [trees felled](#) to save money

Buxton sycamore tree [drilled and injected](#) with mysterious oil

New SANG approved at Beaufort Park, Bracknell; after ‘disgust’ at the number of [trees already felled](#)

Sizewell C oak [tree felling](#) would be devastating', say residents

Trump Administration to End Protections for 58 Million Acres of [National Forests](#)

Drones join battle against [eight-toothed beetle](#) threatening forests

Trees saved (hopefully):

West Berkshire Council imposes [TPO](#) for whole woodland in spite of Council supporting planning app

Century-old trees in Cambridge [saved](#) for second time

Fearful neighbour's bid to chop down oak tree [blocked](#)

London [grapefruit tree](#) given protected status

The Druids Oak is 800 years old - can it help save [tomorrow's forests](#)?

Tree plantings and regeneration:

[Tidmarsh trees](#) are fighting back – Radio Berkshire - 6 min audio

Ten million trees planted in [Northern Forest](#) project

Peak District ravine woodlands restored with [84,000 trees](#)

'Tree-mendous' number of [trees planted](#) in 2024

Hedges and Hedgerows:

[Help our hawthorns!](#) Understanding the threats and resilience of our hedgerows – Tree Council Talk August 2025

Miscellaneous:

‘Critically endangered Wichenford tree producing [£5,000 seed](#)’ It’s a Wollemi pine! - perhaps over-priced?

Pioneering satellite reveals [rainforests](#) 'hidden worlds

How [drought](#) affects trees and habitats – Forest Research page, includes 3min video (have to accept cookies to play this)

In the 1970s, scientists noticed that trees in a US mountain range were [migrating](#). Now they know why.

Are trees the answer to solving [climate change](#)? - First item (after introduction) in BBC Inside Science programme

.... *And to make you smile:*

The entire **Pro Git** book written by Scott Chacon and Ben Straub is available to read online for free. Dead tree versions are available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).



Some sources used in this issue: all web pages accessed 29-09-2025 (unless stated otherwise) Links embedded in the text are not repeated here. Email me if you want a list of them.
p9-Species in Focus: Project Crimson – Northern & Southern Rata Fact Sheets www.projectcrimson.org.nz (accessed 2006-04-26)
<https://www.livescience.com/planet-earth/plants/100-foot-walking-tree-in-new-zealand-looks-like-an-ent-from-lord-of-the-rings-and-is-the-lone-survivor-of-a-lost-forest>
<https://westcoast.co.nz/news/karama-walking-tree-wins-2024-tree-of-the-year-new-zealand/> <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/metrosideros-robusta/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metrosideros_robusta <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metrosideros> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hemiepiphyte>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a7IYLF0c7sU>

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The views and opinions expressed in Tree Watch are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or the official policy or position of the Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association.

Don't forget: You can download a pdf version of our 10th anniversary report from our website - but you can also access an extended version of it, with links to the trees mentioned:

wdvta.org.uk/report10.php

Details of all trees in our database are available via the web map pages: wdvta.org.uk/WDVTS

The inventory of commemorative and special trees can also be accessed via our website:

wdvta.org.uk/commem.php

Finally, and most importantly,
THANK YOU to everyone who has recorded our trees.
We wouldn't have a database without you.