



PRESS RELEASE

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Media Contact: Mike Bray, The Mersey Forest Team
Tel: 01925 859 611 / 07770 735 755
Email: michaelbray@merseyforest.org.uk

GRIFFIN WOOD IN BLOOM

Griffin Wood, the new woodland in Bold, has received a splash of colour thanks to a spectacular wildflower meadow that has turned what was previously an inconspicuous agricultural field into a haven for wildlife and people.

The 'Colourfields' project to create the wildflower meadow at the woodland, located at the bottom of Hall Lane, off Gorse Lane, has seen a number of different groups working with environmental regeneration initiative The Mersey Forest to complete the dramatic makeover. Istock Cory Environmental Trust provided funding for the project via the Landfill Tax Communities Fund, and local volunteers including the Friends of Griffin Wood and young people from Clock Face's Leaf Centre have helped by sowing some of the seeds.

Now the hard work has paid off with summer seeing the project bloom into life. Angela Haymonds, Trust Secretary of Istock Cory Environmental Trust, said:

"As well as providing a great treat for people visiting Griffin Wood, the wildflowers have also been a dramatic sight from the M62, providing a great advert for the Wood and for the Bold area as a whole."

Clare Olver of The Mersey Forest Team said: "The wildflower bloom has topped off a great year for Griffin Wood, which this time last summer was still an agricultural field. Now instead of that we have a healthy young woodland, wildflowers, ponds, and not to mention

an orchard soon to be on the way.”

You can find out more about Griffin Wood and how you can get involved by visiting the woodland’s website at www.griffinwood.blogspot.com.

Additional support for the Colourfields project was provided by European Union Objective One, Forestry Commission and the Local Heritage Initiative via the Heritage Lottery Fund.

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Editors Notes:

The Mersey Forest:

The Mersey Forest is the leading environmental regeneration initiative in the North West and the largest of England’s 12 Community Forests. The Mersey Forest is not restricted to a single site, rather it is being created across a 465 square mile area of Merseyside and North Cheshire as networks of woodlands and other habitat between and within our cities, towns and villages for - and with the involvement of - local communities.

The regeneration of The Forest is driven by The Mersey Forest Partnership, which includes the Forestry Commission, Natural England and nine local authorities – Cheshire, Liverpool, Ellesmere Port and Neston, Halton, Knowsley, St Helens, Sefton, Vale Royal and Warrington. The Mersey Forest is the key driver for investment into and for the development of a green infrastructure for the North West, reclaiming over 8000 hectares of land, home to 1.6million people, over a 30-year period to bring revolutionary economic, social and environmental benefit to the region.

Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust

The Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust (ICET) was established in February 2001, in conjunction with Ibstock Brick Limited and Cory Environmental Ltd and funded through the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme (LTCS), now known as the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF). To date the Trust supported 144 projects and funding totalling £2.8 million has been approved. The ICET mainly supports projects in St Helens, Walsall, Dudley, Sevenoaks and South Gloucestershire where Cory Environmental has operational sites with links to Ibstock Brickworks. For further details and to download an information pack please visit <http://www.coryenvironmental.co.uk/community/trusts>