



Press Release | 16 June 2014

Families invited to celebrate Merseyside vision at woodland carnival

Families are invited to a “party in the woods” to celebrate the launch of a new green vision for Merseyside and North Cheshire.

The woodland carnival, featuring tree-climbing, willow-weaving, solar-powered music and more, will take place on Sunday 22 June from 12pm until 4pm at Risley Moss Local Nature Reserve in Warrington.

The event will celebrate the launch of The Mersey Forest Plan, in which the partnership sets out its vision to get ‘more from trees’ to make Merseyside and North Cheshire one of the best places in the country to live.

Paul Nolan, Director of The Mersey Forest, said: “The Mersey Forest Plan provides a blueprint for a happier, healthier and greener Merseyside and North Cheshire, and sets out where we will plant more trees and woodlands for the benefit of people, wildlife and the economy.

“Over xx people took part in the public consultation of the Plan last summer. Their input was invaluable, and we would like to show our gratitude by holding this event.”

The event is part of the Green Safari fun day run by Warrington Borough Council and Risley Moss Action Group, so there will be many other fun activities and stalls to explore.

The event, and the development of The Mersey Forest Plan, has been part-funded by GIFT-T! (Green Infrastructure for Tomorrow – Together!)

ENDS

Media contact: Laura Johnson, tel. 01925 859 066 / 07770 735 755

Notes to editors:

The Mersey Forest

The Mersey Forest is a growing network of woodlands and green spaces spread across Cheshire and Merseyside, which has been creating 'woodlands on your doorstep' since 1994.

The Forest is one of the leading environmental regeneration initiatives in the North West. Through community and partnership working, we have planted more than 8 million trees - equivalent to five new trees for every person living within the Forest area.

The Forest helps our towns and cities adapt to climate change and has won the Brian Redhead Award for Environmental Sustainability, creates woodlands that 20% of local people visit at least once a week, and by improving the image of our towns and cities sets the scene for growth within the region's £98 billion economy.

We achieve all of this and more through our partnership of local authorities, landowners, the Forestry Commission, Natural England and businesses including United Utilities.

www.merseyforest.org.uk

GIFT-T!

GIFT-T! (Green Infrastructure for Tomorrow – Together!) has contributed to the funding of The Mersey Forest Plan consultation. The Mersey Forest is working with partners in the UK, Belgium and the Netherlands to share approaches and develop best practice between 2011 and 2015 as part of this EU Interreg funded project. GIFT-T! started in Sept 2011 and involves seven partners that invest in creating jobs, protecting valuable habitats and boosting the rural economy.

GIFT-T! brings public and private partnerships together to address issues such as climate change, energy and food security, and facilitate new initiatives for green enterprises such as recreation and bio-energy.

www.gift-t.eu

