

Ore Community Land Trust

Saving and enhancing green space in the Upper Ore Valley



NEWSLETTER Autumn 2021

Volunteers

The work that this trust does in Speckled Wood wouldn't be possible without our wonderful team of volunteers and the members that support us.

The **volunteers** have been working hard all year, maintaining the plots of land that we own, keeping the stream clear of debris, maintaining the footpaths and generally looking after the woodland. They meet at our cabin below the green next to the Salvation Army in Old London Road every Thursday morning and now also on the first Saturday of each month.

Each volunteer does what they feel comfortable in doing, from gentle duties such as looking after our award-winning community garden to heavier duty work.

This is a great social gathering and as well as the good work that is carried out in the woodland, friendships are made, tea and coffee is consumed and an enjoyable time is had by all.

If you are interested in coming along to one of our sessions, to find out who we are and what we do, we would love to see you. You can email us at volunteers@oreclt.org or call us on 0738 3000 673, or just turn up at 10:00 on one of those days. We will welcome additional volunteers and look forward to meeting some of you.

We also need more members.

Ore Community Land Trust is a membership organisation and the more individuals who join and organisations that affiliate, the stronger will be our voice.

Our membership fees are :

Individual £10; Unwaged, Retired, Student £5; Junior (under 16 years) £1;

Organisation £ 40. Your membership fees help to fund our work. Membership is free to our registered volunteers. All members receive these quarterly newsletters and are entitled to attend our AGM and vote. More details of volunteering and membership can be found on our website , just click on "Get Involved".



Volunteer maintaining the Wood

Our volunteers have been very busy maintaining the community gardens and woodland. They have installed the new pond and have been working with Groundwork South Greener Futures to repair some of the many steps around Speckled Wood. Join us on Thursdays 10am till 1pm and on the 1st Saturday of the month.

Volunteer Saturday! Saturday 6th November 10am till 1pm

This will be a special volunteers open day. We would like to invite anyone who is interested in volunteering or who already volunteers with us, to come along and plan our future sessions. We would like to hear what you want from the sessions and any ideas you may have to improve our work. Refreshments will be available. Come along to our Volunteer Base below the green next to the Salvation Army in Old London Road.



Ore Community Land Trust, the Ore Centre, 455 Old London Road, Hastings TN35 5BH

Phone: 0738 3000 673 Internet: www.orecommunitylandtrust.org.uk Email: info@oreclt.org

We are on both Facebook and Twitter so follow us and keep up with the latest developments.

Searching for your stories in Speckled Wood

We are looking for stories, photographs poems, and pictures from you about Speckled Wood. Can you help us find our community history of our wood ?

We know that allotments were created in long strips across the valley floor. They were rented out from the 1920s with priority given to soldiers and sailors. Did you help your family grow summer fruits, or did you “Dig for Victory”?

Or perhaps you walked to school past the pig pound. You might have belonged to the “pig club “ and dropped off your family’s waste food to feed the pigs in the wood. Did you ever see the lorries delivering swill or collecting the pigs for the market just outside Ore Village ?

We would love your stories from the past century and more recently.

Do you walk your dog along the stream?

Do you have a favourite path to the shops ?

Did you ever build a secret den with your school friends ?

These memories are part of Speckled Wood and we would like to gather them up and preserve them . Firstly we will have a chat with you and then if you would like us to put your memory into a written story we can do that with you.

If you would like to be part of this, please come to our Volunteer Day on the 6th November or visit us on any Thursday between 10am-11am at our volunteer base just below the village green or email us at gabriella.pettitt@oreCl.t.org



Award-winning!

We are very proud to announce that our Community Garden, which is situated in Ore, just below the Salvation Army, won first prize in the Ore in Bloom competition this year, for the Best Community Garden. Our volunteers have been growing beans, tomatoes, lettuce, courgettes, strawberries, apples, plums and much much more!



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Help us while you shop

We are delighted that we have just been chosen once again by the Co-op as a charity for their 2021/22 Community Fund Scheme! For the past two years we have benefitted from this scheme that allows you to help us while shopping. If you register at your local Co-op store as a Co-op member it only costs you £1 and you get back 2% of what you spend in cash rewards, plus many special discounts on items, so it more than pays for itself. Also, when you choose Ore Community Land Trust as your preferred local cause we will receive the same donation (2p in the £) from the Co-op. This really helps us so if you shop at the Co-op please remember to nominate us. <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/51897>



If you shop at Amazon, you can also help us by shopping at their ‘Smile’ website. All the same products are available, and if you shop there and choose us as your preferred charity, we will receive a donation of ½% of your spend from Amazon. Remember always to shop at the Smile store – the Amazon app can be set to default to this. <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

Supporters

We can only achieve our aims by working together with organisations and individuals and we are very grateful to the following for their support:

The Foreshore Trust, Big Local North-East Hastings, Sussex Community Foundation, Hastings Borough Council, The Conservation Volunteers, the Lund Fund, Greener Futures,