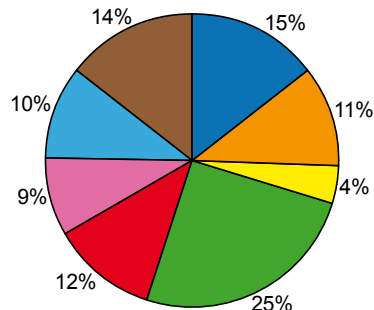










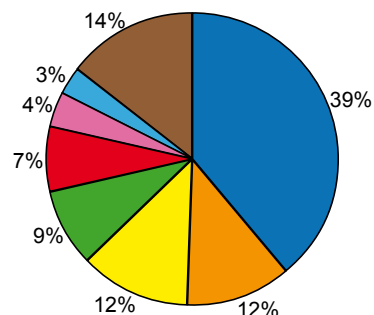
Budget Figures 2009–10

Income 2009/10



	TWBC Core £51,250
	KCC Core/Inkind £38,628
	Roll Forward Income 2007/08 (Attached and unattached funding) £14,441
	Enhancing Natural Beauty (Reserves, Greenspaces) £88,070
	Encouraging Action (Education, Volunteering, Free trees, Love Where We Live) £39,946
	Raising Awareness (LBAP, Events, Walks & advice) £29,840
	Capital Renewal Fund £36,000
	Reserve Funding £50,000
TOTAL INCOME = £348,175	

Expenditure 2009/10



	Core costs (Salaries & overheads) £135,970
	Overheads - occupancy, vehicles, admin £40,992
	Roll Forward Income 2010/10 (attached and unattached projects) £42,559
	Capital Replacement Fund (Vehicle and office equipment) £30,000
	Enhancing Natural Beauty (Reserves, Greenspaces) £24,524
	Encouraging Action (Education, Volunteering, Free trees, Love Where We Live) £13,947
	Raising Awareness (LBAP, Events, Walks & advice) £10,183
	Reserve Funding £50,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE – £348,175	

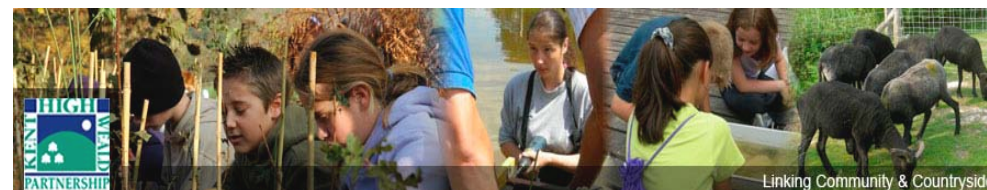
Contact details: Kent High Weald Partnership, Conservation Centre, Bedgebury Pinetum, Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst TN17 2SJ

Tel: 01580 212972 Fax: 01580 212691 www.khwp.org.uk

KHWP could not operate without the support and core funding from Kent County Council and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council.



Project funding from: Natural England; High Weald AONB unit; Tunbridge Wells Borough Council; Kent County Council; Big Lottery; Heritage Lottery Fund; Breathing Spaces; Cranbrook Parish Council; Brenchley & Matfield Parish Council; Pembury Parish Council; AXA PPP; Goldman Sachs; KPMG; Grassroots Fund; Network Rail; Environment Agency; Fit as a Fiddle; WKPC; Forestry Commission;



Kent High Weald Partnership Annual Report 2009/10

KHWP delivered 115 events and practical tasks during 2009/10 in the Tunbridge Wells Borough.

This annual review is an opportunity to celebrate the successes and highlight the challenges ahead for KHWP.

As this report shows, a great deal has been achieved this year, by a strong team that is committed to providing a high quality, effective service. Ultimately however, KHWP can only function at this level through the commitment, goodwill, trust and integrity of everyone involved in its work. Staff, Volunteers, Councillors, other Council Officers, contractors, partners, landowners and the general public are all crucial to this process. The year confirmed the strength of this support and we look forward to this continuing and developing in the coming years.

Working with multiple partners, KHWP is responsible for landscape, recreation, access and habitat management; organising a wide range of public events and activities; managing Local Nature Reserves; advising on greenspaces and working closely with educational groups of all ages and abilities in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells.



With new projects being forged and exciting new initiatives being undertaken, KHWP held **115** events and practical task days. Volunteer days spent on practical work & project events added up to an impressive 3057 days over the year. In financial terms, equivalent to £152,850 worth of labour. **This is our highest ever recorded figures for both participants and activities.**

KHWP has performed strongly in attracting funding, which has allowed us to work on a huge variety of projects across the partnership area. Funding reserves have allowed us to build up a capital replacement fund, some of which was spent on a new vehicle and the continuation of the Assistant Officer post. Which has proved invaluable in helping expand the partnerships capacity and ability to deliver new schemes across the borough.

Positive actions to achieve positive results on a local level.

Staff levels have increased and all posts have been filled. As staff gain greater experience and build up relations within their job role, this has really helped the partnership to move forward. The continuation of the Assistant Officer has greatly helped, allowing Countryside Officers more time to deliver projects. The support and work of volunteers has been invaluable on practical task days, events, newsletter distribution, office admin and general project assistance, and to whom considerable thanks are due.

KHWP currently employ 6 full time and 1 part time staff



Project Report



Green Spaces

KHWP oversees the management of Barnett's Wood and Hilbert Wood's in Tunbridge Wells, as well as the Crane Valley in Cranbrook and Cinderhill Community Woodland in Matfield. Work on the reserves has continued at a great pace with; multiple grant bids, a growing events programme, thousands of hours of volunteer input and exciting new projects planned. Management plans and detailed work programmes are being implemented across all sites.

Outputs included:

- Muddy Marvelous Weekend Events
 - Creation of a new Friend's of Barnett's Wood newsletter
 - Woodland improvement grants for Cinderhill and Barnett's Wood
 - Reclassification to ancient woodland for part of Hilbert Wood's
 - Extension of new boardwalk at Crane Valley
- Access project at Cinderhill, including surfaced pathways, gates, panels and signs.

Our influence and partnership working with other borough and community owned greenspaces has remained strong, for example, a grassroots project at Dunorlan Park working with the local community. In TW Borough KHWP is leading on delivering the National Indicator 197, 'bringing Local Wildlife Sites into positive management', and is currently working on 6 sites, with further sites planned.

Educational work

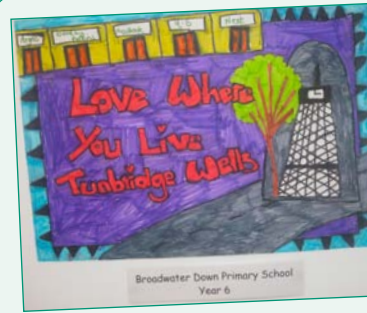
Education projects remain innovative and ground breaking. In partnership with the High Weald AONB Unit we continue to deliver the highly successful High Weald Heroes scheme, which aims to make children more aware of the environment, and specifically the unique local landscape of the High Weald. In total 28 schools in the borough benefited directly from KHWP work, with many others able to use the resources created from the projects.

Outputs included:

- The Energy Story - dealing with issues related to energy production and our carbon footprint.
- Advised on improving and developed school grounds as an education resource.
- Led on developing education forums across all Countryside Management Partnerships, to discuss project ideas and closer partnership working.
- Creation of an education pack and school resources for Strawberry Wood Culvert.
- Filmed the Woodland Chapter for 'My High Weald'.
- 75 educational visits were undertaken in the nature reserves.



3057 volunteer days achieved, equivalent to £152,850 worth of labour



Encouraging Action

The Kent Free Tree Scheme offering 25 free trees to all residents in the county has proved incredibly popular. TW Borough received the most applications and planted the highest number of trees in the whole county. The scheme attracted 280 applicants with some 5,800 trees being distributed; over 40,000 trees were distributed countywide.

Working in partnership with TWBC, KHWP delivered a school and community action project in association with 'Love Where We Live'. This involved 7 schools from across the borough receiving a programme of assemblies, workshops, school environment days, as well as an art competition. Community

activities included practical tidy & planting days around the borough, 'Love TW Week' and support for local groups taking pride in their community.

We continue to host on behalf of the TW Borough Council the successful 'Wild About Gardens' Scheme, to promote better biodiversity in our gardens and help reach Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets.

Raising Awareness

Combwell Wood SSSI Project, sought to unite multiple owners who have bought sections of the wood from Woodlands.co.uk. Training and networking opportunities were given and help with grant forms was provided. An archeological survey and a management plan for the whole site have been completed. This project was the first of its kind, and is being used as a model to role out to other SSSI woodlands.

Strawberry Wood Culvert Restoration Project near Benenden was completed. Highlights of the project included; stonework fully restored; a celebration event held on site; soundbox and interpretative panel installed; education pack and resources created. A DVD of the restoration project and the woodland chapter of 'My High Weald' is available on KHWP website.

We continue to work in partnership with the council to deliver the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and offer advice to landowners and farmers on biodiversity and conservation.

In partnership with High Weald AONB Unit we have developed a comprehensive Land Managers Pack, which offers a complete guide to habitat information and contact details for further help & advice.

Our bi-annual newsletter which includes a pull-out 6-month free public events guide, highlighting task days and activities has become well established. 20,000 paper copies have been distributed, including to all primary schools in the TW Borough. It is also available in electronic format.



Volunteering

At the core of KHWP delivery is working with volunteers in the TW Borough. This year funding was received to work with Over 50's on 'Fit as a Fiddle' taster sessions in practical conservation. Grassroots funding covered a series of weekend volunteer workshops at Barnett's Wood. Without this volunteer work force much of the projects we are engaged in would not be possible. Much effort goes into recruiting volunteers and working with local groups to make this possible. We have a dedicated staff member, vehicle and workshop to support this key deliverable.

