



**The planting and maintenance of woodlands was at the heart of KCM's establishment nearly 20 years ago. Our love of woodland continues to this day. This newsletter is designed to be the first in an occasional series which we hope will be of use and interest both to our existing clients and to other interested woodland owners.**



Forestry Commission

### English Woodland Grant Scheme - Background and Prospects



In recent years there has been less and less grant funded planting across the South West. Indeed in the last year only 280ha of new woodland has been planted across the 6 counties of the South West. This is well below the Forestry Commission target of 400ha.

As a result there has never been a better time to plant trees under the EWGS. The FC is desperate for more planting to take place. Last year every single application was successful and we do not envisage this situation changing for next year. Please contact us to discuss tree planting in Winter 2009-10 and for a free, no obligation site visit.

In the Cranborne Chase AONB there are extra funds available this year for works to existing woodlands which will provide 80% of the costs of undertaking the improvements of those woods. (Compared to the current figure of 50%)



### Game Cover Planting

KCM has been involved in some excellent schemes designed to create long term successful game cover. Over time, planting such as Cotoneaster, Snowberry and Lonicera will create cover that will both help to hold birds in winter and to act as a food source.

Planting shrubs helps to warm up woods, reduce birds wandering and reduces reliance on costly annual cover crops.



### Further Funding Available for SSSI's

Further funding has been made available for works to improve SSSI's in particular the clearance of Rhododendron, we can help you with any application to the Forestry Commission for additional funding, please call us to discuss.





## Trees and Tree Shelters

KCM has planted over 1 million trees in the last 8 years and is pleased to be a main agent for Tubex tree shelters.



Please contact us for a quote on your tree and tree shelter requirements. We work with a wide variety of nurseries and are able to supply all trees from small hedging plants to large ornamental trees.



## FWAG Sponsorship

KCM is pleased to announce that we have become a sponsor of FWAG in Dorset and Somerset for 2009. FWAG is an excellent organisation and it's aims are in line with those of KCM and it's clients. More than 80% of the UK is countryside and FWAG assists the people who manage the countryside providing environmental management expertise. This means that food produced in the UK, our countryside and the native wildlife as we know it can be improved and protected for our future generations to enjoy.

## Tree Risk Assessments

KCM continues to highlight to landowners the importance of undertaking tree risk assessments on their land. Recent cases have established liability for landowners in accidents involving falling trees or branches and therefore there is a clearly defined duty of care upon landowners.

Tree risk assessments need to be undertaken, as do follow up works as per the recommendations of the assessment. A programme of ongoing annual assessment should be put in place. Although this sounds onerous, it need not be.

Please contact Guy Lowndes for an initial no obligation site visit.



## Gorse Control in Dorset Funded by Pastures New

KCM has been involved in several projects that have been part or wholly funded by the Pastures New Scheme. This scheme has been put in place to preserve and improve rare Dorset grasslands, and removing gorse, particularly from the Purbeck Ridge is a key part of that. For more information please contact James at KCM or the Pastures New office on 01305 756788.



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