

2016 London Tree and Woodland Awards

On the 26th May 2016, London City Hall hosted a celebratory awards event to celebrate the work of individuals, communities and professionals to protect, improve and expand the capital's tree and woodland cover.

Leonie Cooper (Chair of the London Assembly Environment Committee) and Sir Harry Studholme (Chair of the Forestry Commission) attended the event and congratulated everyone in London for their hard work.



Photos from the awards evening are available from the [FC Flickr page](#)

We have also produced case studies for some of the winners to highlight their achievements and inspire others – click on the links overleaf for further information.

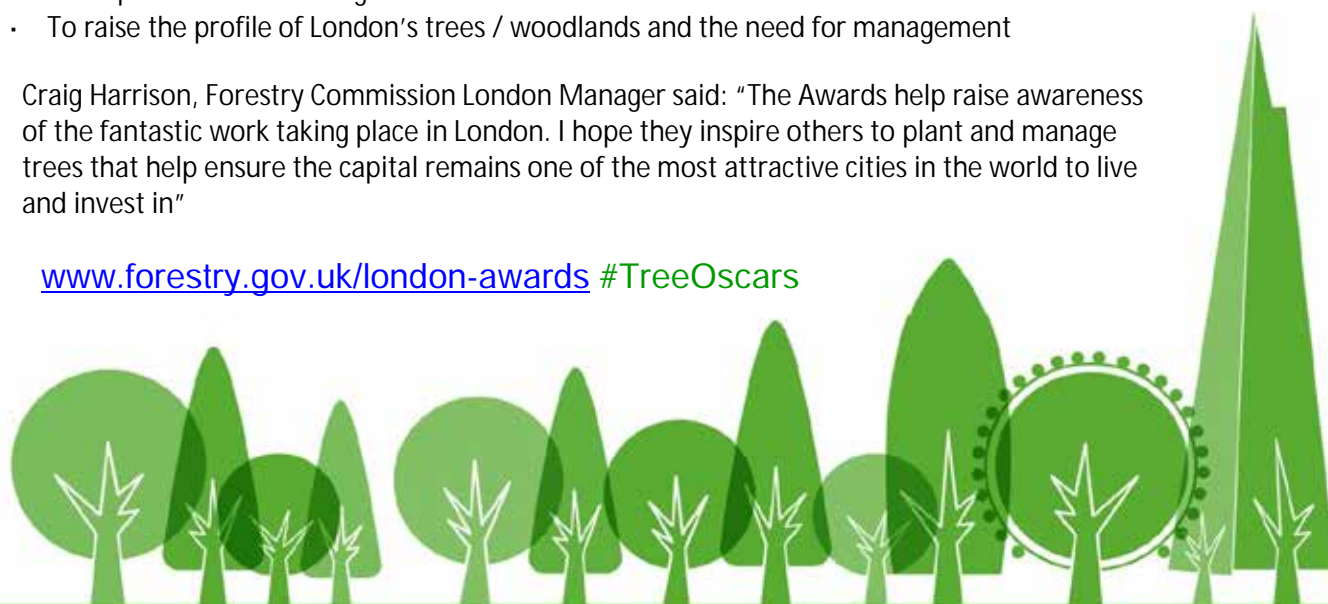
Trees for Cities receiving their award at City Hall in May 2016. From left to right: Sir Harry Studholme (Chair of the Forestry Commission) Kate Halahan (Trees for Cities), Matthew Demorais (Unilever), Holly Sutcliffe (Unilever), David Elliott Trees for Cities CEO, and James Morton (Ealing Council Ranger).

The aims of the awards are:

- To celebrate the work of individuals, communities and professionals to protect, improve and expand the capital's tree and woodland cover
- To inspire others to manage their trees and woodlands
- To raise the profile of London's trees / woodlands and the need for management

Craig Harrison, Forestry Commission London Manager said: "The Awards help raise awareness of the fantastic work taking place in London. I hope they inspire others to plant and manage trees that help ensure the capital remains one of the most attractive cities in the world to live and invest in"

www.forestry.gov.uk/london-awards #TreeOscars



Award results



Community Woodland Creation Award

for a woodland project that have been inspired, driven, and delivered by local community groups.

Winner: **King George's Field Edible Urban Woodland – Trees for Cities, Unilever and LB Ealing.**

This new woodland was planted this winter and involved hundreds of volunteers over several days. It has transformed an amenity grassland area and brought people together from all faiths using innovative approached such as 'Plant to the Beat'. The site was carefully designed with species appropriate to the site to create a diverse woodland.

King George's Field Urban Edible Woodland



Community Woodland Management Award

for a woodland project that has been inspired, driven, and delivered by local community groups.

Winner: **Friends of Selsdon Wood.**

Since getting involved in management of the site in 2008, the group have been involved in survey work, habitat management and tree planting. They have also produced an engaging website, path improvements, leaflets and guided walks that have improved access and connected people with the woodland.

Volunteers installing new benches in Selsdon Wood



*Tree care training day,
Brockley Society Tree Committee*

Community Tree Award

for tree projects that have been inspired, driven, and delivered by local community groups.

Winner: **Brockley Society Tree Committee.**

The Society undertakes a huge range of initiatives that engage local people in the planting and management of trees in their neighbourhood – and provided advice and support to others too. Their fundraising has helped match fund street tree planting to transform parts of Lewisham where local people feel it is needed the most. Their 'Tree Guardian' approach helps ensure planted trees become established trees.

Acorn Award

for members of the public who have made a particular contribution to promoting or conserving trees.

Winners: **Margaret Berger, Jan Hewlitt, Peter Leon and Anne Mayo of Gunnersbury Triangle Local Nature Reserve.**

Since successfully campaigning to protect the woodland from development, they have improved the site for wildlife and public enjoyment. There have been lots of volunteers over the years but this award recognises the continuous effort of some for decades. In 2015 the site earned a Green Flag Award



*Volunteers at
Gunnersbury Triangle LNR*

Trees and Development Award

recognises the importance of integrating trees into developments and highlighting the valuable role that trees play.

Winner: **Dalston Square**

– **J&L Gibbons, Barratt London and LB Hackney.**

Trees have been incorporated in the design of a new public square that creates a beautiful and functional space for local people. The design has taken account of complex underground infrastructure and carefully selected tree species appropriate to the site and community needs.



Dalston Square

The Tree Council Trees and Learning Award

for a project that has engaged and involved children of any age up to 16.

Winners: **Willowdene School and the Urban Orchard Project.**



Above: Orchard planting at Willow Dene School

The children of Willowdene school have planted a new orchard with the guidance of the urban orchard Project. It is a primary special needs school that has engaged children from ages 3 to 12 to develop an understanding of trees and food. The orchard has not only connected children with trees but helped teach them about mutual respect and sharing.

Right: A linear orchard on Powerscroft Road, designed and planted by Rupert Bentley Walls



London Tree Officers Association Individual Commitment Award

for an individual employed professionally within London who has shown consistent dedication and commitment over a prolonged period.

Winner: **Rupert Bentley Walls.**

After a varied career, Rupert joined Hackney Borough and used his skills and innovative ideas to transform the treescape of the Borough over 10 years. He has driven key initiatives such as the development of Hackney Community Tree Nursery, planting of Wick Woodland and the use of trees in traffic calming measures. Over his time, Rupert has at least doubled the number of street trees in the Borough including the use of alternative tree species.

The 2016 awards have been kindly supported by the following sponsors:



DERWENT
LONDON

