



Chichester Harbour Conservancy
Harbour Office, Itchenor, Chichester PO20 7AW
Tel: 01243 512301 harbourmaster@conservancy.co.uk

P R E S S R E L E A S E

12 May 2006

CHICHESTER HARBOUR CONSERVANCY FUND LOCAL PROJECTS

Eleven local projects received nearly £95,000 in grant money between them in the first year of the Conservancy's Sustainable Development Fund (SDF).

A wide-range of projects were funded with some receiving up to 75% of their total costs. These included the setting up of a Native Tree Nursery at the Apuldram Centre which takes in donated saplings and grows them on so that they can later be planted in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). A community art project was undertaken at Bosham School. The children learnt about the harbour's birds and then created a glass display panel. Cobnor Activities Centre benefited from nearly £4,000 towards replacing their open canoes – the Centre is used extensively by local schools. A grant was also made towards the cost of improving the Salterns Way cycle route by opening a new section that took the route off Apuldram Lane.

Alison Fowler, the administrator of the SDF said 'we were pleased to have an imaginative selection of applications for funding. We have another £80,000 available for 2006 and are keen to hear from people with suitable local projects'.

The money for the fund comes from DEFRA via the Countryside Agency. The Fund has been set up to help community based projects within Chichester Harbour AONB. The aim is to assist projects that will look after the AONB now and for the future.

MORE OVER

Full details of the Fund are available from the Harbour Office or at www.conservancy.co.uk/about/sdf.asp. An online application form has recently been

added to simplify the process. Anyone who thinks they may have a suitable project should contact Alison Fowler in the first instance on 01243 512301.

ENDS



Nicky Horter donating some ash saplings to Richard Manning at the Native Tree Nursery

NOTES TO EDITORS:

- **A high-res jpg of this photo can be supplied**
- **Interviews can be arranged with Alison Fowler, AONB Officer, Chichester Harbour Conservancy**

Please contact Ali Beckett allie@conservancy.co.uk

The Chichester Harbour Conservancy is the statutory harbour authority for Chichester Harbour with a legal duty to manage the harbour and the surrounding land for the purposes of recreation and leisure, conservation and landscape protection. It has a wide range of powers to control navigation, moorings, works and dredging, as well as to maintain and improve the wildlife value and the landscape.

The Conservancy also manages the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) to ensure that it is conserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of all. AONB officers and their staff work with national and local government, environment organisations, landowners and managers and their local businesses and communities to ensure that these unique landscapes and the rare and wonderful wildlife living in them are protected and enhanced.

For more information please contact the Harbour Master - Lt Col John Davis OBE on 01243 512301.