



Coeden Fach
Community Tree Nursery

*Trees, Volunteers
& Community*

Annual Report

2022-2023



Annual Summary

Coeden Fach is 15 years young this year and the continuing success of our tree nursery is a testament to everyone involved from our founding members and directors to our current management committee and all our staff and volunteers. We continue as we started in our commitment to growing native trees and hedgerow plants from seeds collected locally. In doing so we are equally committed to the health and well-being benefits of working with volunteers, disadvantaged groups and local schools and colleges.

We are open every Tuesday and Thursday 9:30-1:30 and love to welcome new volunteers to join our friendly and enthusiastic team. No prior experience is needed and we can find tasks to suit all ages and abilities. No need to make a regular commitment, our volunteers attend on a regular or ad hoc basis as suits them best.

Funded Projects (April 2022 - March 2023)

We began work on the **Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Grant** awarded to Coeden Fach this year. This funding has enabled us to plant 750 trees/hedgerow plants in 5 community areas – Margam Park, Craig Cefn Parc, Ebenezer Chapel in Dunvant, Cae Felin CSA in Morryston and Penllegare Valley Woods. We worked with volunteers from Coeden Fach, Dylan Thomas School and from organisations where we planted the trees. Funding runs until November 2023 and is enabling us to work with volunteers to grow more trees for future planting.



Coeden Fach Community Tree Nursery

Bishop's Wood Countryside Centre, Caswell, Swansea, SA3 3BS

Email: coedenfach.info@gmail.com Tel: 07831923244 Website: coedenfach.org.uk

facebook:coedenfach.trees

The **Co-op Local Community Fund** presented Coeden Fach with a cheque in November 2022 bringing total funding to £5,307.65. This funding helped us work with the local community through regular volunteering sessions and to deliver seasonal sessions with Mayals Primary School.



The Austin Bailey Foundation continued to fund work with schools throughout Swansea this year and pupils enjoyed juicing sessions and collecting and planting acorns at site. For some younger pupils from Townhill Primary the visit to Coeden Fach was their first ever school trip (Covid restrictions having prevented trips before). They were so excited and enthusiastically joined in all the activities and Kate's tree ID game.



We are delighted to have been awarded new **Gower AONB Sustainable Development Funding** which will enable us to continue to deliver benefits on Gower – watch out for Autumn events collecting seeds and juicing apples.

Swansea Freemasons have presented us with a cheque for £250 which will be used to support work with schools in deprived areas of Swansea in this financial year.

My Tree Our Forest - Woodland Trust Tree Giveaway

It was great to be a hub for the tree giveaway again this year. 637 trees were collected by local households plus many more went to community groups in Swansea. Coeden Fach and Kate featured prominently in the advertising videos and pictures published by the Woodland Trust this year.



Community Planting and Tree Sales



We worked with Bishopston Community Council to plant trees on the community green. Despite very soggy conditions lots of families from the village turned out to plant trees with Kate. Tree sales were lower than expected this year but we have plenty in stock now for this year's planting season. We welcomed a visit from Welsh Government officials who have responsibility for planting alongside roads and motorways and are hoping some of our trees might find their way into these larger planting schemes.

Clyne Site

We have continued to develop the site this year and thanks to Swansea Council now have an extended irrigation system which covers all our tree beds, raised beds and polytunnel. Extended dry periods in the Spring are increasingly a problem for young trees and this system will help us grow more saplings next year. We are hugely grateful to all our volunteers for helping us maintain and improve site but we must give special mention to Phil Slater and Peter Powell who have worked on the irrigation system and our kitchen extension which now has hot and cold running water and a roof to keep out the elements.



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We must also give a shout out to the amazing work from Swansea Tree Society volunteers who helped with the mammoth task of replanting around 4,000 saplings into tree beds earlier in the year. These are now growing nicely and will be available for sale and planting this Winter season.

The site was recently awarded a Green Flag from Keep Wales Tidy and we were delighted to be invited to Mumbles Community Council Green Heroes event at the Wildflower Café recently.



Crisis and Barod have both brought groups to visit our site and sample some volunteering activities. It has been a great pleasure to welcome some members of those groups both clients and staff back to our open volunteering sessions independently and to hear from them first hand the benefits of outdoor growing activities in a beautiful and safe green space working alongside other volunteers. Care Unity bring a client twice weekly to our sessions who has become a popular and energetic member of our volunteers. Having access to our sessions has had a huge impact for this volunteer and his family who care for him.

We also worked in partnership with the Orchard Project and Sweet Pickings to run additional juicing days with schools. Forest School Swansea Neath & Port Talbot are currently running weekly sessions for 5-11 year olds which have been well attended. We have also run similar sessions in partnership with Clyne Valley Project. It is great to see our site being able to support other groups to deliver more community, health and well-being benefits.



We held an open day as part of Clyne in Bloom in May and in support of the Friends of Clyne. We hosted visits from Swansea Community Growing Network, Clyne Valley Project, Pennard Gardening Group and others. We held a willow weaving event for volunteers.

Training

We hosted a successful training and networking event with Woodland Trust and Llais Y Goedwig on setting up a tree nursery which was followed up with a filmed interview with Kate. Brecon Beacons National Park also sent a group to spend a day at our nursery to learn about how we grow our trees and run our nursery. The Orchard Project ran an apple grafting training day at site.

Thank You & Volunteers



Volunteers and supporters are what make Coeden Fach successful and without whom our organisation would not survive. Massive thanks to all our volunteers for giving us time, energy and enthusiasm in large amounts whether that is hands on support at site or helping in other ways. 85 volunteers gave over 2,000 hours of time to Coeden Fach in the last financial year.



Directors and Staff

Kate Davies - Director & Coordinator

Dai Morris - Chair

Ruth Evans - Treasurer & Secretary

Saunsuree Searle - Director

Simon Peacock – Director

Tracey Hinton - Director



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Coeden Fach would also like to say thank you very much to all our supporters and funders this year!!

Cynllun Cymunedau y Dreth Gwarediadau Tirlenwi



Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme

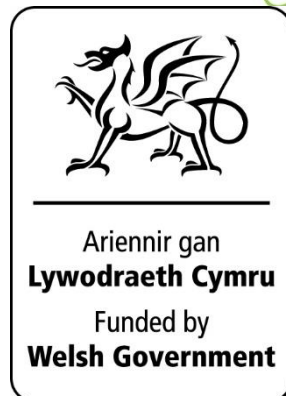
Welsh woodlands & timber



Foundation



PARTNERIAETHAU NATUR LLEOL
LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIPS
CYMRU



SWANSEA COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
CYNGOR GWASANAETH GWIRFODDOL ABERTAW

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