

Birmingham TreePeople

Issue 11
15/01/24

The Droplet

New Year's Resolutions?

Tree Trails Street Trees



Picture taken at the Conifer Identification Walk, a joint training session (with a Christmas theme) with BTP and [Highbury Park Friends](#), where Dee Brettle began plotting the new tree trail.



As we move gently into 2024, the [Street Tree Surveys](#) will continue, and yield more results that can be used to informatively plant new street trees in the future.

Last year of 2023, the survey showed us that there was an overpopulation of cherries that are susceptible to canker, but liquidambar thrive in the rising heat islands. Low to no mulching was a major factoring problem, and the parts of the city that lack resources and financial support are where the trees die, due to poor tree equity (BTP has been targeting these priority wards during the [last planting season](#) for this reason).

The final training session of last year, including a conifer identification walk where the trees were plotted using TreePlotter to create a new trail, reminded us of the mindful joy of nature. Walking around [Highbury Park](#), identifying the conifers along the trail one-by-one, allowed us to learn new things about these beautiful trees on our doorsteps.

This survey for the trees on our streets is a great way to get out into the local area, along with Nina who runs the survey, and help the community. Street trees are far more important to the urban environment than given credit, and perhaps raising awareness and support for these vital public elements – whilst getting yourself outside and active – is something worth [volunteering](#) for.

Deanne Brettle, BTP Trustee, has been plotting many of the Friend groups' tree trails, including [Cannon Hill Park](#), [Ley Hill Park](#), [Highbury Park](#), [Ward End Park](#), [Handsworth Park](#), and [Bournville Park](#). The Friend groups have worked hard to create these trails, and Dee is diligently working through the trails to digitise them, making them available online through TreePlotter.

Picture from BTP's Summer Social 2023, where Nina Griffiths (middle) taught Martin (left) and Sonja (right) how to correctly survey a street tree and what data needs to be taken.



If you've vowed to yourself to be more active this year, perhaps get more exercise, or simply be out in nature a bit more, then these [Tree Trails](#) are a fantastic place to start. They help your mental health, as well as your physical health!



The Droplet is a fortnightly treeformative flyer for our [mailing list](#), and is also available to download on the [Newsletter Archive](#). The monthly newsletter, [Birmingham Roots](#), is also available. [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#)

