

Our mission is to provide a united voice dedicated to promoting, advocating and lobbying for the regeneration and sustainable future of quality green spaces throughout the South West.

This first News and Information bulletin is produced by Roger Gates, GreenSpace South West Regional Development Manager and its objective is to support GSSW members. It is currently circulated free of charge, to other green space sector organisations. The work of GreenSpace Southwest (GSSW) is mainly funded by organisations' annual membership, therefore membership is encouraged. For more information, please visit www.green-space.org.uk/southwest/

GSSW Diary Dates

Towards An Excellent Service (TAES) and Peer-Led Challenge Training Courses

TAES

Date: 15 October 2009

Venue: Bishops Hull, Taunton

Peer-Led Challenge

Date: 27 & 28 October 2009

Venue: Bishops Hull, Taunton

Please note that you will not be able to attend the Peer-Led Challenge course unless you have attended an Implementing TAES training course.

Towards an Excellent Service (TAES) for Parks and Open Spaces, is a parks specific version of the Excellence model that has helped transform the performance of cultural services and the perceptions about their impact on communities over recent years.

Those organisations attending the 'Peer-

Led Challenge' course will have the opportunity to become a member of a pilot 'TAES Improvement Network'. GreenSpace is seeking to establish two 'TAES Improvement Networks' in different English regions.

Please click to download a pdf version of the [flyer](#) and [additional information](#)

4 November 2009 – **Green Space National Forum** – Birmingham – Contact Sarah Moore on 0118 946 9065

8 December 2009 – **Steering Group Meeting and Open Meeting** – Exeter – Contact Roger Gates on 07838 584617

Other Diary Dates

21st October 2009 – **Finding the Plot** – Reading

A one-day conference to share skills and experience on how access to land for

growing food can be improved throughout the UK.

For further information, please contact www.sustainweb.org

21st October 2009 – **Environment, wellbeing and healthy lifestyle** – Stoke-on-Trent

A one-day conference bringing together a wide range of groups with concerns for relationships between the environment, wellbeing and lifestyles.

For further information, please contact www.staffs.ac.uk

30th October 2009 - **Basic level tree inspection** - Devon

This accredited course runs at a cost of £50 per person.

If you're interested, please contact Heather Tarrant at the CMA, cma@writtle.ac.uk

17 November 2009 – **Making it Safe** - London

GreenSpace and IPGS conference to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour in parks and green spaces. The full programme will be announced shortly. To provisionally book a place or for further information please call the GreenSpace events team on 0118 946 9068, or email events@green-space.org.uk

24 November 2009 - **South West Allotment Officers' Forum** - Ashton Court Visitor Centre, Bristol – Contact Di Appleyard on 0117 963 1551

National News

Gordon Brown has announced a new government programme that will see **10,000 new green work placements** delivered, in partnership with the Eden Project. [More](#)

The Country Parks Accreditation Scheme was launched in August 2009 by Natural England to identify and recognise sites that deliver the core facilities and services expected of a Country Park.

Country Park managers are being encouraged to apply to the accreditation scheme, even if they have already attained Green Flag Award status, as this particular accreditation will be awarded to sites that offer the facilities and services expected. Details on how to apply are available on the Natural England website. [More](#)

The **CABE Space leaders programme 2010** will be held at the Marriott Hollins Hall in Baildon near Bradford, from Tuesday 23 February to Friday 26 February 2010.

[Click here](#) for all the details about the leaders programme and booking information.

Applications are now open for **CABE Space's 2010 design skills scholarships**. Up to six people who work in the public realm are being offered the opportunity to travel abroad to learn from fellow professionals how a well-designed space can benefit the community it serves. The closing date is 13 November 2009 at 5pm. [More](#)

New government network calls for **allotment land** – see Landscape Review article [here](#).

Local News

A regional **Green Infrastructure Growth & Delivery Event** is scheduled to be held in the South West in December 2009. Further details of this event will be included in the next GSSW newsletter.

To discover more about Green Infrastructure and supporting resources, try the following link:

[CABE's Sustainable Cities Green Infrastructure](#)

GSSW and 'Walking the Land' are currently in the process of putting together a Stage 2 application for 'Access to Nature' funding, by working with member organisations and regional partners. If the bid is successful, it will improve access and opportunities for learning, creativity and health across the South West region.

GreenSpace News

Love Parks Week 2009 from Sat 25th July – Sun 2nd August saw over 600 events take place across the UK, with 40 of these registered in the South West (See Pie Chart). It is estimated that 400,000 people ventured outdoors and enjoyed parks & green spaces during the week. The week sought to highlight the

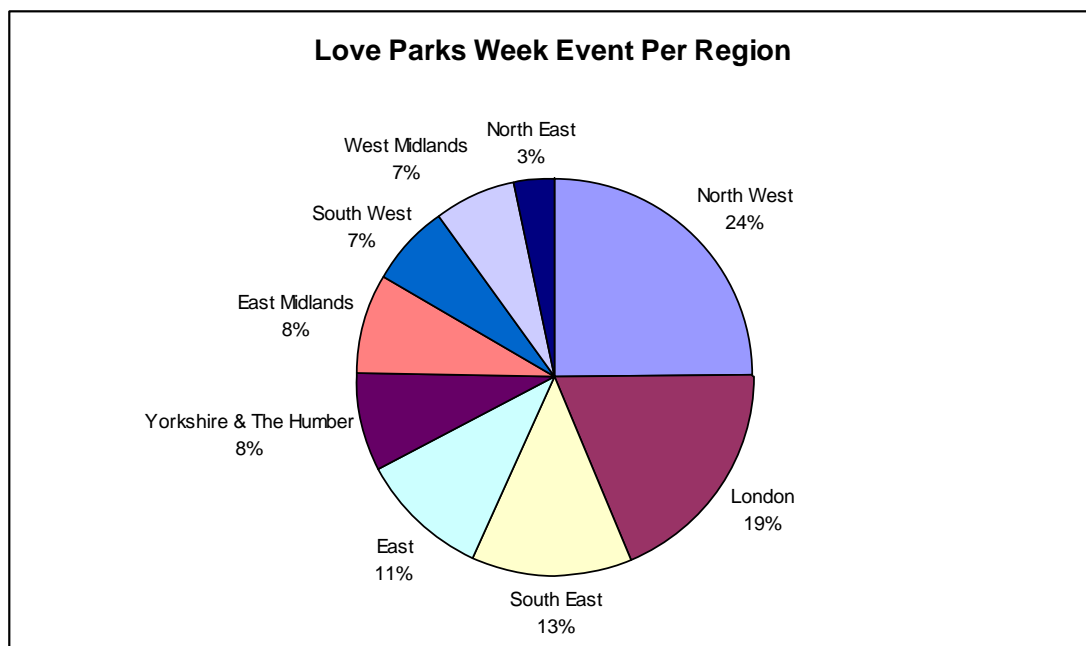
importance of parks and green spaces to communities and the need for continued investment and support for these valuable assets. Love Parks Week 2010 is scheduled to run from 24th July to 1st August.

Green Flag Awards

A record number of parks and green spaces were awarded a Green Flag Award or Green Pennant Award for 2009/10. A total of 1013 are flying their Flag or Pennant following the awards ceremony in Bournemouth which took place on the 22nd and 23rd July. 60 flags and pennants were awarded to parks and green spaces in the South West region.

To become a judge or find out more visit <http://www.greenflagaward.org.uk> and there is a section dedicated to case studies [here](#).

Postcards from the Park Winners have been announced and can be viewed [here](#).



Membership News

Its time to renew your membership please – for all outstanding membership payments please contact [Sue](#) or to find out more about membership please contact [Roger](#)

Benefits of joining GreenSpace can be found at www.green-space.org.uk/southwest/getinvolved/index.php#member

Contact Us

GreenSpace South West is managed by Roger Gates 07838 584617 rgates@green-space.org.uk

Peter Wilkinson is Parks Service Manager at Bristol City Council and Chair of the GreenSpace South West Steering Group peter.wilkinson@bristol.gov.uk **Sarah Moore at GreenSpace co-ordinates and manages the activities of all of the regions, sarahm@green-space.org.uk**

If you would like help or require further information, relating to the management of parks and greens spaces and/or the services related to them, please get in touch.

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