
moor trees
creating native woodland
IMPACT REPORT
2025-26

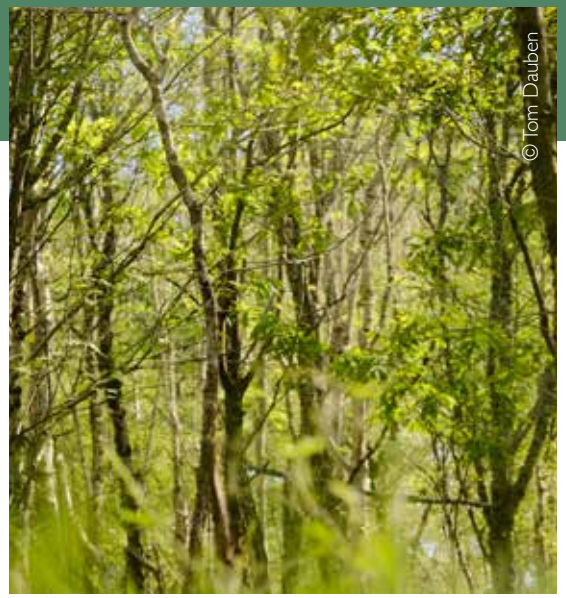
WELCOME

Moor Trees celebrated its 25th anniversary throughout 2025 and achieved a record-breaking seed collecting season, with volunteers gathering and processing unprecedented quantities of seeds, nuts and fruits for future tree planting. Together, we created over 24 hectares of new woodland and have more than 104,000 trees growing in our nurseries. Further investments have been made in our Community Tree Nurseries to boost production and help us to grow as many healthy trees as we can in the available space. We have also expanded the team to help support a more ambitious programme of engagement and outreach.

Celebrating our 25th anniversary also inspired the charity, and its supporters, to look to the future. While there has been much to celebrate over the past 12 months it has happened at a time of increasing turmoil and uncertainty in the world. On Dartmoor we have experienced wildfires, flooding and another of the wettest winters on record. Our citizen science programme shows that while what we are doing is making a difference, this is not enough in the face of a climate emergency. It is this desire to do more, and faster, which will underpin our next three-year strategy.

Moor Trees remains committed to our vision to see a wilder Dartmoor, with woodlands that form part of a mosaic of restored natural habitats, offering significant benefits in the fight against climate change and biodiversity loss. This is what drives our work, encourages us to convene and collaborate with others, and inspires the involvement of our community of supporters and our volunteers who engage in our activities all year round.

With continued support, Moor Trees will keep driving towards a future where native woodland and scrub cover one third of Dartmoor by 2050 by restoring habitats, strengthening climate resilience and encouraging more people to take action for nature. Our expertise, knowledge and community of volunteers will continue to be valued by the partners and landowners we work with.


© Tom Dauben

Our mission is being directly supported through 1% for the Planet and other giving platforms such as Crowdfunder and The Big Give. These donations, along with vital grants and regular gifts from individuals and corporate supporters help us make a significant difference in our local community, and to restoring nature on Dartmoor. We are grateful for the ongoing support – thank you.



Jenny Isaac
Chair



Helen Aldis
Chief Executive

Our impact



24,362
trees leaving our nurseries over winter to create new woodlands and hedgerows

Over
352,000
seeds (368kg) gathered and processed by our volunteers



219,042
trees now planted and supplied since Moor Trees was established





285
registered volunteers giving
6,408
hours of their time this year

More than **162**
volunteering days delivered



National and local media coverage including the *Independent*, BBC Radio Devon and *Dartmoor Magazine*. Moor Trees also featured in Channel 5 TV's *Love Nature* series

24.5 hectares of trees planted to help create new woodland habitats

Four
new woodlands created bringing our total number of woodlands and hedgerows created to **195** since the charity was founded

34
corporate supporters

More than **104,000**
trees growing in our tree nurseries and thousands more germinating



Restoring and creating woodland

This winter marked a significant achievement for Moor Trees as our volunteers planted our 200,000th tree.





© Josh Greet

Young volunteers planting our 200,000th tree at Scae Farm near Holne

To achieve our woodland creation aspirations Moor Trees collaborates with a variety of landowners and stakeholders. This winter we supported a diverse range of woodland creation and restoration projects, from private smallholdings and working farms to large multi-partner collaborations on open-access land and National Nature Reserves. To fund our woodland creation activities, we help landowners secure grant funding from the Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest and continue to benefit from the support of the Utility Warehouse Foundation to achieve our tree planting goals.

From November to March each winter Moor Trees volunteers are supervised by our woodland creation team to plant a range of new woodland, hedgerow habitats and boost the potential for natural regeneration on and around Dartmoor. This winter included the continued collaboration to expand Wistman's Wood, contributing to an inspiring new scheme to boost nature-rich habitat at Scae Farm where we celebrated Moor Trees volunteers planting our 200,000th tree, and supporting the community of Princetown to plant a new hedgerow.

As well as overseeing our own projects, we have supplied a further 8,000 trees to a number of ambitious woodland schemes such as Devon Wildlife Trust's Bowden Pillars temperate rainforest creation project and the Ambios rewilding project on the Sharpham estate.

Our woodland creation team

This winter our tree planting season attracted more than 220 people to join in and help create the woodlands of the future. The camaraderie and determination of volunteers – who, combined, gave a fantastic 1,456 hours of their time – led by our Seasonal Woodland Creation Officers, helped us to deliver a challenging and incredibly wet tree planting season.

Together we planted 13,710 trees, created 24.5 hectares of new woodland and wood pasture and 650 metres of new hedgerows.

River valley restoration

Moor Trees collaborated with Challacombe Farm to support some targeted river valley restoration. Volunteers helped the farmers plant up the banks of the River Webburn with a mix of 300 willow cuttings and our locally grown trees laid out in small clusters or 'tree islands'. When they mature, the trees will provide a valuable new seed source to this area to support greater natural regeneration along the riverbanks as well as slowing the flow of water and reducing run off into the river system. With funding from Devon Environment Foundation we have been able to commence a pilot project to inspire more landowners to reconnect and expand tree cover along Dartmoor's river catchments.



Collaborating with the Duchy of Cornwall

Across the Duchy estate at Prince Hall and Moorlands Farm we worked with the Duchy of Cornwall to plant nearly 1,000 trees in five woodland areas. Plus, at Greyhound Newtake, a brave group of volunteers planted 350 trees in the wilds of the central moor close to the Cherry Brook.

We also ventured to the National Nature Reserve of Wistman's Wood with Natural England and the Woodland Trust. We filled in more of the Wistman's Wood mirror site (where planting commenced in March 2025) and planted another 800 trees grown in our nursery from Wistman's Wood acorns and rowan seeds. This included clusters of trees in six new fenced areas that will protect young trees from grazing animals and connect and expand the different sections of the wood.

Emma Magee, Head of Communities and Nature on Dartmoor, The Duchy of Cornwall, said: *"We are delighted to have been able to return to Wistman's Wood and to be working with partners including Natural England and Moor Trees to continue this important work. The continued restoration of this iconic woodland reflects the Duchy's commitment to building and enhancing nature-rich landscapes. Expanding and strengthening a rare temperate rainforest isn't a one-off intervention; it requires steady, long-term effort. This work forms an important part of our wider efforts to build the long-term resilience of Dartmoor's landscape, following the release of our Dartmoor Landscape Vision last year."*



How we collaborate with landowners

We support landowners and land managers through every step of woodland creation, from visiting their site and talking through design ideas, to helping access grant funding by managing the whole application process and compiling the paperwork and evidence required. Moor Trees supplies local provenance trees and the expertise and guidance to manage the planting and logistics involved in creating a new woodland with the support and energy of our amazing team of volunteers. We also revisit the woodlands we help to create to monitor progress and habitat change, and to provide maintenance advice to ensure healthy, resilient woodlands (see pages 8-9).



Our Community Tree Nurseries

Our trees are grown from seeds gathered from ancient woodlands across Dartmoor. This means that they are genetically more suited and resilient to the climatic conditions and adapted to thrive in the settings where they are eventually planted. This year 130 different people volunteered at one of our two Community Tree Nurseries, helping us to nurture over 104,000 broadleaf native trees spanning 34 different tree and shrub species.

Community Tree Nurseries like ours are a vital and growing part of the UK tree production sector. Having access to local trees can bring added benefits to the woodlands that Moor Trees and its partners are creating on Dartmoor. Our tree nurseries are both Plant Healthy certified and accredited with the Woodland Trust's UKISG Assurance Scheme.

A bumper seed gathering season

During the autumn our staff and volunteers celebrated a record-breaking Seed Gathering season with a staggering 368kg of fruits, nuts, acorns and berries collected this year! Over 23 days Moor Trees volunteers gave a total of 826 volunteering hours. Some 89 people volunteered to give their time to help in this vital task.

The charity works with landowners to arrange seed gathering from a range of local woodlands. These include ancient woodlands which require special permissions and consent to visit from the government agency Natural England. Moor Trees could not have achieved the collection of over 352,000 seeds since August without a collaborative approach. Seed gathering is a key feature in the volunteer calendar and has been supported again this year by funding from the Woodland Trust thanks to players of People's Postcode Lottery with funds awarded by Postcode Green Trust.





Our new seed cleaning machine in action

Moor Trees welcomed a new member of the team, Dybvig – a seed cleaning machine. It arrived in time to help us with our biggest seed collection ever. Between the volunteers and the seed cleaner, we were able to process almost as fast as we could collect, which gave us the space in our storage cupboards to collect even more! The importance of being able to process the seed in good time is that we ensure every seed gets the right amount of cold stratification over the winter, which maximises the potential germination rates. It also means we can grow local provenance trees at an even greater scale to meet the growing demand locally.

Improvements at the nurseries

Moor Trees has been making improvements at both of our nurseries this year. Our Dartington site has had three new scaffold benches, which provides us with space to look after another 9,000 trees in root trainers on site. At Broadley, new paths have been installed around the site, to make it much easier and safer to get around. There are also nine new raised troughs for growing seeds in and six new water baths, so we can grow more wet-loving species such as willow and alder. These improvements were made possible by match funding from the Forestry Commission administered Tree Production Capital Grant.



Sharing our know-how and experience

As part of our partnership with the Woodland Trust we opened up our Dartington nursery to share with other Community Tree Nurseries and interested individuals learning about the practicalities of setting up and running a Community Tree Nursery. During another workshop we also shared practical ways to ensure biosecurity within a nursery and actions and processes to make sure standards for plant health are met. Our advice and experience has been used to provide consultancy services to groups and organisations looking to establish or expand their nurseries in the region.

Plant Healthy

Moor Trees collected seeds from a total of 23 different woodland sites on Dartmoor and the surrounding area this year and would like to thank Dartington Estate, Dartmoor National Park Authority, Devon Wildlife Trust, Duchy of Cornwall, Kingskerswell Parish Council, National Trust, Natural England, Rewilding Hill Crest, South West Lakes Trust, Susan Widlake and Woodland Trust for welcoming us to their woodlands and being a vital part in our mission to restore native woodland.

Our healthy woodlands

An important part of our work is monitoring the progress of the woodlands we help to create to ensure they are thriving. Our visits also assess whether the surrounding habitat is undergoing the changes we would expect to see as part of a shift towards establishing a healthy, biodiverse woodland. Our volunteers are trained to use a range of methods and tools to monitor the growth of trees, assess their health, record ground cover changes and identify flora or fauna present. By the end of this winter the charity had supported the creation of over 185 woodlands and hedgerows since it was founded with more than 219,000 trees supplied and planted.

During our monitoring season we revisited a selection of woodlands ranging in age, size, and structure. We also heard some early news from our most recent planting at Deancombe Farm, one year on which was indicating a 96% survival rate of trees thanks to the dedication of the landowner to keep them watered in the spring drought of 2025.

The Hillyfield



The Hillyfield was planted in 2011, comprising four areas covering 2.2 hectares on a multi-use community woodland, forest garden, and educational site. The survival rate of all trees here was higher than average. However, many of the oaks have been damaged by grey squirrels. The landowner has been high-pruning trees to remove squirrel perches, trapping, and working with neighbouring landowners to try and reduce the impact – this will be an ongoing task. It was amazing to see high numbers of naturally regenerated seedlings with hazel, oak, ash, alder, rowan, hawthorn and blackthorn all springing up around the edges of the woodland areas showing that healthy woodlands are establishing. Eight species of bird were recorded on our visit including jays, swallows, wrens, chiffchaffs and long-tailed tits along with butterflies such as large whites, red admirals and meadow browns spotted flitting through glades. Grass cover has already reduced by up to 80% and woodland plants such as wood avens, wood speedwell, enchanter's nightshade and ivy are now present. The woodland also supports a diverse lichen community.

> *"The Hillyfield is very grateful for the support of Moor Trees over the years - for both the professional advice, and practical hands-on help. Planting 3,000 trees is no small job and the team engaged in such a considered and caring way that the success of the woodland planting was very high, with very few failed trees. The ecological benefit is significant with many fruiting and flowering trees included in the mix, benefitting birds and bees alike."*
> **Doug King-Smith, The Hillyfield**

Long Meadow

Long Meadow was planted in 2020, comprising two former grazing fields that cover approximately one hectare. It is still in the early stages of woodland establishment, the trees are thriving. There is already a high number of naturally colonised oak seedlings which have benefitted from the fencing that keeps out grazing animals. The invertebrate community is rich with eight butterfly species, six bee species, three spider species, multiple beetles and grasshoppers all discovered between the trees. Birds such as swifts, wrens, jackdaws, great spotted woodpeckers, and buzzards were also recorded on site indicating a flourishing food web is present.

Soussons

Soussons is a mixed, upland farm where the broadleaf planting softens the edges of the neighbouring conifer plantation, providing a diverse habitat for wildlife along the stream joining the river Webburn. The trees were planted in 2010 and are growing well with height and diameter in the expected range for their age. Many woodland flora indicators were found including wood sorrel, sweet woodruff, and bluebells. We also found dog violets, tormentil, germander speedwell, mouse-tail moss and numerous fungi. Volunteers heard goldcrest, swallow, chiff chaff, blue tit, buzzards, common crossbill and the highlight of our day was a little egret on a flying visit. There are also seedlings of ash, hazel, hawthorn, sycamore, beech, and blackthorn coming through ensuring the future resilience of the woodland.



Scorriton Down

We revisited planting from 2002-03 at Scorriton Down on the high moor – close to the site of Moor Trees' first ever tree planting. Visiting this site during our 25th anniversary year was extremely rewarding. The trees are well established. There is some ash dieback present but this has opened up gaps in the canopy which will allow saplings to come up through. On the ash that still persist, there is a diverse lichen community and many ash seedlings are regenerating alongside rowan, hawthorn, field maple, oak and hazel. We identified the presence of hazel dormice from chewed nut shells and observed bank voles. It was fantastic to hear that treecreepers, blackcaps, great tits, bullfinches, blue tits, long-tailed tits, robins and chaffinches have all made their homes here. We also saw speckled wood and fritillary butterflies.

Overall, our monitoring shows that our woodlands are transitioning from grass-dominated younger woodlands to more diverse maturing woodland ecosystems at older sites. This shift supports improved conditions for tree growth and enhanced wildlife habitat for conservation priority species. Through species identification, we found increasing diversity in ground-cover vegetation and the presence of woodland indicator species, such as lichens and dormice, found in maturing woodlands.



Volunteering with Moor Trees



Volunteering has been at the heart of Moor Trees over the past quarter of a century. Nowadays, our volunteering activities attract a wide range of people who care about nature and the work we do. A total of 285 individuals gave a combined contribution of more than 6,408 hours of volunteering during 2025-26.

Growing local provenance trees

Throughout the seasons we see a steady flow of regular volunteers as well as student volunteers visiting from different parts of the country and further afield such as the Netherlands and Australia. We also welcome the siblings and children of regular volunteers alongside people who have workplace volunteer days.

During the year 3,974 hours were given by volunteers at our nurseries. People who volunteer for Moor Trees represent a range of different ages and backgrounds and bring with them a variety of experience and skills which results in a rich community atmosphere. Volunteers often comment on the enjoyment they get from interacting with people from different walks of life to them. Experiencing our work inspires some people to make life-changing decisions, such as one of our volunteers heading off to university to study conservation forestry after being inspired by her very first volunteer day with Moor Trees.

We are enormously proud to have a vibrant, warm volunteer community and are immensely grateful to everyone who chose to volunteer with us come rain or shine this year.

I volunteer for a few reasons:

1. Growing native trees is a very useful and practical action to take for climate change mitigation and an all round good thing to do.

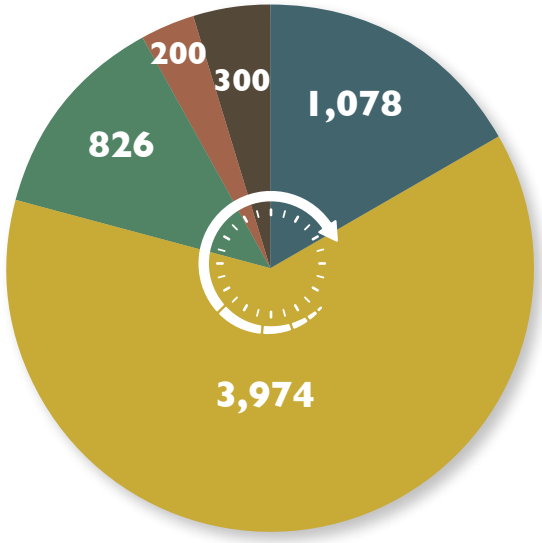
2. I really like Moor Trees' approach to growing trees in a sustainable way whilst also supporting volunteers to work. Moor Trees is positively interested in nurturing volunteers as opposed to having an 'unpaid workforce'.

3. I appreciate interacting with a wide range of people of different ages, outlooks, backgrounds that I wouldn't necessarily get a chance to speak to otherwise.

Matthew, volunteer



Moor Trees volunteering hours given 2025-26



Out and about on Dartmoor

Over the course of the calendar year volunteering with Moor Trees provides the opportunity to experience new and interesting places on and around Dartmoor. Volunteers are able to be involved, firsthand, in our work to restore nature across the landscape. Being a volunteer with Moor Trees provides the opportunity to be part of the cycle of nature, from the creation of a new woodland to exploring the lichen covered boughs and shaded canopy of an ancient woodland to gather seeds. During our summertime Citizen Science programme volunteers are also able to learn and understand more about the stages of habitat change as a woodland develops and grows.





Our Board of Trustees

Thank you to the trustees who have provided strategic oversight and governance over the past 12 months. Collectively, they have given more than 300 hours of their time including providing valuable support to the staff team. In September we welcomed three new trustees to the Board – David Gibson, Ross Kennerley and Kelly Rich – while also saying farewell to Dr Thomas Murphy who retired from his role after nine years.



Trustees at the 25th anniversary celebration event from L to R – Katherine Moore, Tim Ferry, Dr Thomas Murphy, Alex Thiemann, Jenny Isaac (Chair), Jake Willis and John Green

Funders and partners

Moor Trees benefits from relationships with a wide range of stakeholders and partners that support our work and help to enhance our impact. Without the support of, and involvement in a wide range of partnerships, we would not be able to deliver inspiring projects that help to achieve the restoration of native woodland habitats on Dartmoor.

In the past 12 months we have also built a growing number of regular donors who are supporting our work with monthly or occasional donations.



Julia Denham with UW Partner Jo Mottershead and our Operations Manager Dave Lewis at our 25th celebration event

Utility Warehouse

"As we enter the second year of our partnership with Moor Trees, it's rewarding to see our commitment to planting 90,000 trees physically taking root. This collaboration remains a vital part of our efforts to restore local biodiversity and build a more resilient future. Beyond the environmental impact, it offers our UW Partners and customers a unique, hands-on way to connect with nature and give back in the heart of their communities."

Julia Denham, Head of Sustainability at Utility Warehouse

Since our partnership launched with Utility Warehouse, the UK's leading multiservice supplier, in April 2024 we have successfully supplied 37,276 trees to woodland creation schemes across Dartmoor and its surrounding areas, marking a significant milestone toward our shared woodland creation goals.

"What stood out wasn't just environmental benefit, but the culture: people working at their own pace; families and children getting involved, new connections formed through shared purpose, sustainability, community and doing the right thing quietly and consistently."

Mark Tregenza, UW Partner

"It was immensely satisfying knowing that the trees I planted on Dartmoor will go towards supporting the environment and give food and shelter to all sorts of creatures in the years to come. I met some wonderful people and learnt a good deal too."

Mary Wardell, UW Partner



Local provenance tree production with the Woodland Trust

Thanks to the players of the People's Postcode Lottery, the Woodland Trust supported our largest ever Seed Gathering Season in 2025.

Sam Manning, Rainforest Project Officer, Woodland Trust, says:
"Creating biosecure sources of tree seeds genetically adapted to Dartmoor is key to establishing the healthy, resilient forests of the future. The funding of a network of local tree nurseries and seed collection is a crucial part of this vision, that the Woodland Trust is delighted to support."

In September we jointly convened with the Woodland Trust a meeting with key stakeholders exploring anticipated demand for local provenance trees to support aspirations for increasing tree canopy cover on Dartmoor. The discussions will continue as we explore collaborative ways to meet this growing demand.

Promoting the importance of Community Tree Nurseries

Moor Trees is a founding member of the Community Tree Nursery Collaborative (CTNC). This peer support network provides valuable insights and practical support to the growing number of groups and organisations around the UK. We are proud to have actively been involved with an important Shared Outcomes funded project 'Trees Outside Woodland' which led to the foundation of the CTNC. In the Autumn we represented the sector at the launch of an important new report – Stronger Roots – which highlighted the role of the expanding CTN sector in delivering UK grown trees to support woodland creation targets.



Partnership collaboration to expand Wistman's Wood

As part of a multi-year plan to restore and expand the National Nature Reserve Wistman's Wood, in the centre of Dartmoor, we supported the next phase of planting with the supply of young saplings. These were grown in our nurseries from acorns and rowan seeds gathered from the woodland site.

Andrew Bakere, Senior Reserves Manager, Natural England, said:
"This strong partnership is driving woodland expansion around our temperate rainforests - rare, unique, and irreplaceable habitats. We're energised in our mission to support wildlife and repair the very fabric of our landscape. These woods represent our past culture and heritage and are our future defence against climate change. They help manage waterflow from the uplands, reduce storm impacts and protect communities downstream."

Funders

Moor Trees is grateful to the individuals and organisations who have donated to support our work through one off donations, regular gifts, our Big Green Give Appeal and Christmas Crowdfunding campaign.

The charity has benefitted from funding from the following generous trusts and foundations: Aviva Community Foundation, BA Better World Community Fund, Devon Environment Foundation, Forestry Commission Tree Production Capital Grant, Garfield Weston Foundation, James Gibson Charitable Trust, King Charles III Charitable Trust, Norman Charitable Trust and the Swire Charitable Trust.

Our corporate supporters

Moor Trees is proud to have cultivated a growing network of corporate supporters who share a deep commitment in furthering our mission. We help businesses visibly contribute to environmental restoration, employee wellbeing and community impact through practical, locally rooted environmental action.

Businesses throughout the UK play an indispensable role in progressing our community powered woodland creation ambitions on Dartmoor. We work closely with each partner to shape a relationship that genuinely fits their organisation, team, and our shared values, defining our goals for the future of Dartmoor.

Every contribution matters to us, from the businesses that sustain our daily work with steady monthly gifts, our 10 Million Tree Club members and bespoke corporate partners to those who choose to join us on the ground for employee Wild Work Days.

10 Million Trees Club

Moor Trees is a trusted environmental partner for businesses across the UK. Our 10 Million Trees Club provides a unique opportunity for businesses to visibly support the restoration of Dartmoor's landscape, network with like-minded organisations and build meaningful links with the local community. Together we can inspire employees and customers to champion our mission.

> *"For us, running a business has always been about more than profit. We believe in the triple bottom line: people, planet and prosperity. Supporting charities and community-led environmental work is a fundamental part of how we operate. What we really value about the 10 Million Trees Club is that it isn't just about carbon, and it isn't about offsetting. It's something real and tangible. You can see it, feel connected to it, get your hands dirty, and understand the bigger story behind the landscape, the wildlife and the communities it supports."*
> **Ashley Webber, Owner and Director, Balanced Energy Ltd**

Wild Work Days

Moor Trees provides opportunities for companies to give their employees the chance to step away from the workplace, contribute to the restoration of Dartmoor's landscapes and take part in a meaningful environmental experience designed to improve wellbeing, connection and achieve measurable impact.



In 2025-26, we hosted 11 Wild Work Days and five business networking events throughout the year. Tailored to suit a business' needs, these professionally facilitated team experiences focus on enhancing employee wellbeing, morale and active participation. Led by our expert team, the day features seasonal activities based either at our tree nurseries or out on stunning sites across Dartmoor. These days are the perfect way for the team to reconnect, learn something new about the environment and make a real difference to the local landscape.



"We absolutely love partnering with Moor Trees. Not only do they do fantastic work, they also offer really valuable corporate volunteer days that are a perfect balance of education and action. We took a team of 18 to one of their Wild Work Days, planting tree whips out on Dartmoor. Everyone had a brilliant time and we can't wait until the next one. Thank you to the Moor Trees team for such a wonderfully organised day."
Alanna Bestwick, Head of Marketing, Grey Matter

In May 2025, Moor Trees were proud to be invited to become an Environmental Partner of 1% for the Planet – a global platform whose business members commit to donating at least 1% of their annual sales directly to impactful environmental causes, to help protect and restore the Earth's resources.

Since becoming Environmental Partners, we have been delighted to be supported by:

- The London Law Collective
- The Exploding Bakery
- TurnStyle Designs
- Fluvio Ltd
- WholeGrain Digital
- Fresh Ground Film

Thank you to each of these businesses and those who are joining us in the coming year to support our mission.

"We grew up in Totnes, right on the edge of Dartmoor, so working with Moor Trees just made sense. They're not planting for the sake of it. They're growing native trees from local seed and putting them back into the landscape, restoring habitats giving wildlife a chance. It's practical, community-led work that's rooted in the place we call home, which is exactly the kind of thing we want to support."
Mirjam Saar, Head of Marketing, The Exploding Bakery Ltd



Thank you

Thank you to our corporate partners and members of the 10 Million Trees Club during 2025-26: Balanced Energy Consultancy, Bright Solicitors, Christopher's South Hams, Climb Global Solutions, David and Charles Publishing, EAD Ecology, Goulden and Sons, Glass Partitioning UK, Grey Matter, Meritex International Freight Services, Nice Group, Optimising IT, Rabbies Coach Tours, South Hams Motor Club, Taurus Events Company, Utility Warehouse, Wildings Studio, WM Guitars and WMP Creative.

Celebrating our 25th anniversary

2025 marked a milestone year for Moor Trees, providing an opportunity to celebrate our progress while accelerating action for a more nature rich Dartmoor. Throughout the year supporters, volunteers and partners came together to recognise the charity's achievements and strengthen momentum for the years ahead.



Our programme of Walks and Talks

Over the summer our celebratory Walk and Talks highlighted the importance of a range of woodland restoration efforts on Dartmoor. Dartmoor's Daughter, Emma Cunis, led a walk to Piles Copse, joined by local landowners Paul Alexander and John Howell along with Angelique McBride from the Headwaters project. Angelique explained the planting design and plot trials that formed part of an innovative natural flood management scheme in which Moor Trees volunteers had planted the trees earlier in the year.

Lichenologist April Windle guided participants through the National Trust's Shaugh Prior woods – a temperate rainforest habitat – exploring the variety of lichens and bryophytes



alongside Dartmoor photographer Tom Dauben who provided a masterclass in capturing these landscapes. Participants were encouraged to send in their best photographs from the day to be judged, with a winner, Alex Waterer, being chosen for their image of the group walking through ancient woodland (see page 19).

Richard and Kate Morley hosted an insightful tour, sharing their vision for Devon Wildland and the transformation underway at Hill Crest near Longdown as they work to restore nature and create new woodland at their home.

A party in celebration of restoring Dartmoor's woodlands

In June a wide range of supporters including volunteers from the charity's inception gathered for a special celebration marking Moor Trees' 25th year. The event highlighted the growing recognition of Moor Trees' role in local nature recovery and provided the perfect moment to launch our first Impact Report, showcasing the scale of volunteer commitment and the reach of our community grown trees.





Volunteers plant the first tree on Scriton Down. By Chris Smith



Co-founder Adam Griffin with early supporters of Moor Trees

25th Anniversary Crowdfunding Campaign - Plant the Future

Our regular fundraising appeals provide vital funds to support our work. In November 2025 we launched our Plant the Future Christmas Crowdfunding campaign which was match funded by Aviva Community Fund and BA Better World Community Fund-Planet. This, alongside generous donations from individuals, businesses and trusts resulted in us exceeding our target, raising a phenomenal **£25,499**.

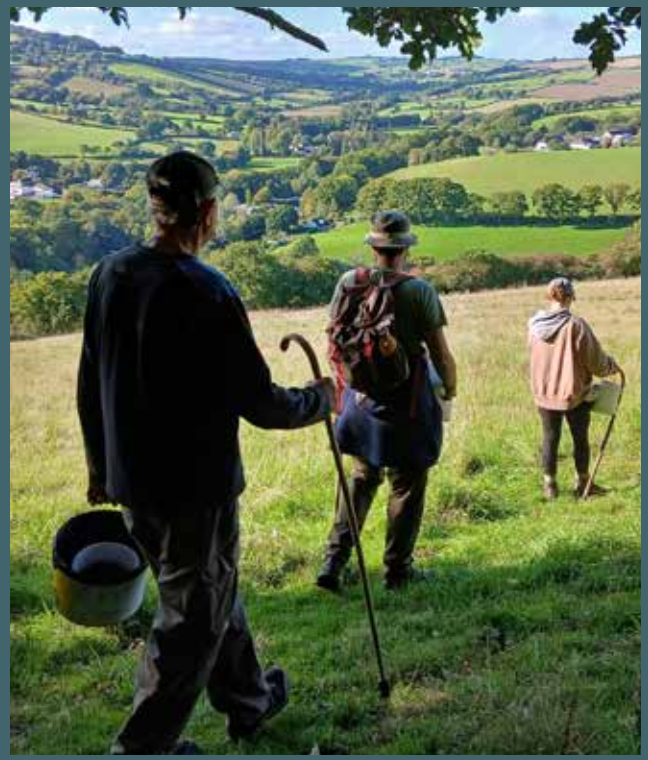
"I hope if I have grandchildren that they see the blossoming of your work!"
H Randle

"Keep up the amazing work! Our network of young change makers is so proud to be able to support the reforestation of Dartmoor and beyond, through the life-giving work of Moor Trees. This donation has been supported through the sales of our non-profit clothing line".
Roots Media

"We're honoured to support the incredible work that you are doing on behalf of our team and clients this year. Congratulations on 25 years, and here's to a very exciting 25 more to come!"
Wholegrain Digital

Our priorities for 2026-27

Moor Trees has set a comprehensive new strategy for the next three years (2026-29). During our 25th anniversary year we had the opportunity to reflect on our achievements to date but also consider the impact we want to make in the next phase of the charity.



It is encouraging that Moor Trees has been involved in a growing number of inspiring and ambitious projects and initiatives on Dartmoor but we know we need to do more, and faster, if we are to achieve our vision for nature's recovery and woodland creation across the National Park and surrounding areas.

The next 12-months will see important work as we:

- **Expand our portfolio of woodland creation sites and partnerships** – working with a range of landowners and land managers our outreach will be focused around Dartmoor's river valleys to inspire the connecting up of existing woodland habitats through planting and natural regeneration alongside our continued service to help advise, plan and create new native broadleaved woodland.
- **Deliver an increased supply of local provenance trees** – through recent investments and improvements our two nurseries are reaching full capacity for tree production. As demand continues to grow, we will explore opportunities to increase the supply of trees to local schemes and encourage a more joined-up approach to projecting future demand in the county.
- **Share our expertise and know-how** – with support from funders we will co-ordinate a range of outreach activities and site visits to showcase our work and the actions to help expand woodland and support nature regeneration across Dartmoor.
- **Inspire the community to breathe more life back into Dartmoor** – sharing our successes, talking about our partnerships and the positive actions and change happening locally will help us to build a greater community of people committed to seeing our vision realised and helping in a range of ways to make this happen.

These four areas highlight the pillars that underpin our three-year strategy:

1) woodland creation
2) know-how
3) local provenance tree supply
4) inspiring the local community to act

If you are interested in finding out more about the work of Moor Trees and how you can get involved by supporting us please visit our website or contact the team to find out more.

Moor Trees is grateful to all our partners and supporters who have helped us to develop and grow as well as assisting with our improved impact throughout 2025-26. Thank you to our customers who purchase our trees or collaborate with us to create new woodlands. Our achievements would also not have been possible without our active team of volunteers, small staff team and Board of Trustees.

Thank you for helping us to breathe more life back into Dartmoor.



2025 Photographic competition winner, Alex Waterer, group walking through Shaugh Prior Woods.

Moor Trees creates and expands native broadleaf woodlands on Dartmoor, forming a mosaic of restored habitats through natural regeneration of native species. We help to improve connectivity of habitats through the planting of trees, focusing along Dartmoor's many river valleys and specific locations across the landscape. We grow our own trees in our two Community Tree Nurseries using seed sourced locally from Dartmoor and surrounding areas.

Since 2000, Moor Trees charity has planted and supplied over 219,000 trees and supported the creation of more than 185 woodlands and hedgerows spanning an area of more than 190 hectares and 20 kilometres of hedgerow. We currently provide the opportunity to nearly 300 volunteers each year to reconnect to nature and enhance their wellbeing.

At the heart of our mission lies a powerful purpose: connecting communities, improving biodiversity, and combating climate change – the most urgent challenges of our time.

Throughout the year we offer:

- A range of seasonal volunteering opportunities at our Community Tree Nurseries and woodland sites across Dartmoor and the surrounding area.
- Specialist advice and guidance to help create new woodlands and restore habitats.
- 34 different species of local provenance trees grown in our Community Tree Nurseries.
- Ways to collaborate with the charity including corporate partnerships, woodland creation schemes and more.

To find out more please visit our website **www.moortrees.org**

Find us on

If you are interested in supporting Moor Trees then please contact us:
Moor Trees, The Old School Centre, Totnes Road, South Brent, Devon, TQ10 9BP
t 01364 649277 e info@moortrees.org

Breathing more life back into Dartmoor

Moor Trees is a charity registered in England and Wales (No. 1081142) and company (No. 03716434) Vat No. 368 9387 27

1% FOR THE PLANET – ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNER –

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Plant Healthy

moor trees
creating native woodland