

Stars congratulate Bristol's kids on tree planting success

Olivia Newton-John, Kevin McCloud and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall congratulate Bristol's primary school kids for helping to plant 39,000 trees for the One Tree Per Child project.



Friday April 15th: **Olivia Newton-John, Kevin McCloud, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall** and Bristol Mayor **George Ferguson** have congratulated Bristol's primary school children for helping to plant 39,000 trees for the city's **One Tree Per Child** project. **Archbishop Desmond Tutu** has also expressed his support for Bristol's initiative.

The One Tree Per Child project was launched in February 2015 with the aim of planting one tree for each of the 36,000 primary school children in Bristol. The project came about thanks to Bristol Mayor **George Ferguson** who joined forces with **Jon Dee** and **Olivia Newton-John**, the Founders of the Australian One Tree Per Child project.

Thanks to the efforts of Bristol's children and their primary schools, as well as environmental partners, community groups and individual volunteers, the project has surpassed the 36,000 tree target. In total, more than 39,000 trees have been planted.

Kevin McCloud from **Grand Designs** said: "Typical: the schoolkids of Bristol didn't just meet their target of One Tree Per Child, they helped to smash it!"

Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall from **River Cottage** said: "This is a fabulous and inspiring achievement - a huge community project that will have real, long-lasting benefits for the local environment and the city's wildlife. While there are 36,000 primary school children in the city, these youngsters have helped to plant 39,000 trees."

In addition to congratulating the city on achieving the tree planting target, One Tree Per Child co-founder **Olivia Newton-John** said: "It's wonderful to see that the City of Bristol has committed to continuing with One Tree Per Child on an ongoing basis. Thanks to Bristol City Council, each year every Reception-aged child will be offered a free fruit tree and Year 5 children will be involved in planting trees across Bristol."

Olivia's One Tree Per Child co-founder **Jon Dee** said: "Thanks to the example set by Bristol, One Tree Per Child plantings have now commenced in 7 countries. We're really grateful to everyone in Bristol who helped to create this wonderful result. Our plan now is to go forward and plant millions of trees."

Since launching in Bristol, One Tree Per Child has started planting trees in Australia, the Netherlands, Kenya, Ghana, Mali and South Sudan. Tree plantings are also set to begin in Jamaica and the USA.

The Australian initiative was launched by Jon Dee and Olivia Newton-John together with the **Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull** and **Environment Minister Greg Hunt**. The Australian Government is funding the first 100,000 trees in Australia which are being planted this year.

Kevin McCloud's One Tree Per Child video is at:
OneTreePerChild.tv/Kevin-BristolVideo

Can you share this online or put it on your web site?

Global statesman **Archbishop Desmond Tutu** has also given his support to the initiative:

"I would encourage village, town and city authorities to adopt the simple but far-reaching One Tree Per Child policy in the same way that Bristol has done in the UK. The policy of having every primary school child planting one tree each is one that I fully support."

Full unedited quotes from **Olivia Newton-John, Kevin McCloud, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall and Demond Tutu** are on the following page.

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Interview Availability and Photos:

One Tree Per Child Co-Founder Jon Dee is available for interviews from Australia via admin@OneTreePerChild.com.

For tree planting photos, please contact admin@onetreeperchild.com.

Tree planting photos from One Tree Per Child Bristol are available via admin@OneTreePerChild.com



Kevin McCloud's One Tree Per Child video is at:

OneTreePerChild.tv/Kevin-BristolVideo - can you put it on your website?

Full quotes for the One Tree Per Child result

Kevin McCloud - Grand Designs

"Typical: the schoolkids of Bristol didn't just meet their target of One Tree Per Child, they helped to smash it!" Congratulations to the schools of Bristol. We're going to have to find a new name for the campaign. Meanwhile, once again, Bristol has shown the world what commitment to sustainability means."

Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall - River Cottage

"Bristol has demonstrated that it's more than possible for a major city to plant one tree for every child. In fact, while there are 36,000 primary school children in the city, these youngsters have helped to plant 39,000 trees in the last 18 months.

"This is a fabulous and inspiring achievement - a huge community project that will have real, long-lasting benefits for the local environment and the city's wildlife."

Olivia Newton-John - co-Founder of One Tree Per Child

"Bristol was the first city in the world to launch the One Tree Per Child project. By planting 39,000 trees, Bristol has surpassed our target, ensuring that we've planted more than one tree per child for the 36,000 primary school children in Bristol. It's a really fantastic result!"

"It's wonderful to see that the City of Bristol has committed to continuing with One Tree Per Child on an ongoing basis. Thanks to Bristol City Council, each year every Reception-aged child will be offered a free fruit tree and Year 5 children will be involved in planting trees across Bristol."

George Ferguson - Mayor of Bristol

"My aim is to make Bristol a greener and healthier city. One Tree Per Child is a key part of that mayoral vision and it has proved to be a great partnership.

"We have 3 things we can be particularly proud of. Firstly this is another Bristol first.

"Secondly, we have delivered on our commitment to have children involved in planting more than one tree per Primary School child, and thirdly we have set a wonderful role model for other cities and towns to follow around the world. We can be really proud of what we've achieved as a community... but there is much more we must do!

"Since Bristol's children started planting trees for One Tree Per Child, the project has expanded to plant trees in 7 countries. This is now a global project and we can be extremely proud that it all started here. I want to thank all the children, schools, community groups, volunteers and our wonderful Australian partners who helped to make this happen.

"Without you, we would not have got these trees in the ground – giving another great legacy from our year as European Green Capital."

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

“I would encourage village, town and city authorities to adopt the simple but far-reaching One Tree Per Child policy in the same way that Bristol has done in the UK. The policy of having every primary school child planting one tree each is one that I fully support.”

Jon Dee - Co-Founder of One Tree Per Child

“Thanks to the example set by Bristol, other countries have now started getting involved in the One Tree Per Child project.

“Planting has commenced in 7 countries and organisations and communities in other countries have asked to join the project. This would not have happened without the wonderful role model that Bristol put in place and the people who helped to make the One Tree Per Child initiative a reality in the city.

“We’re really grateful to everyone in Bristol who helped to create this wonderful result. Our plan now is to go forward and plant millions of trees.

“With the first stage successfully completed in Bristol and major plantings underway in Australia, we are very confident that this is only the beginning of what is turning into a huge international tree planting initiative.

“It’s particularly exciting for One Tree Per Child that our plantings in Africa are being carried out in partnership with CHASE Africa and TREE AID, both of whom are based in the Bristol region. It’s yet another example of Bristol leading the way on tree planting.”

Tree planting photos from One Tree Per Child Bristol are available via admin@OneTreePerChild.com

