

Press Release

Free help to set up a community woodfuel group in your area

Would you like to harvest free firewood, while learning how to lay hedges in the traditional way? Devon Hedge Group is offering free advice to people who would like to set up community groups to do this.

Rob Wolton, Chair of the Devon Hedge Group, says “Devon's hedges are world renowned for their biodiversity and heritage value. They also form a huge and sustainable source of woodfuel. Devon Hedge Group has been helping people in rural communities learn how to harvest wood from hedges for their hearths, stoves and log burners. This saves them money, while helping restore overgrown hedges and reducing farmers' costs.

We now have funding from Awards for All, part of the Big Lottery, to help five more communities set up woodfuel groups, and reach agreements with farmers. We'd be very happy to hear from anyone who would like to do this in their community.”

The money can pay for holding a public meeting, with a Devon Hedge Group speaker, or for advice on the constitution for a woodfuel group, or to help reaching an agreement with a local farmer. It can also pay for the group's insurance for the first year.

If you would like to set up a group in your community, please contact Andrew Shadrake, at andrew@boveyclimateaction.org.uk, or phone 07976 743461, as soon as possible.

Notes to Editors:

Andrew Shadrake, of Devon Hedge Group, can be contacted on 07976 743461 or via andrew@boveyclimateaction.org.uk , and is the best initial contact.

Rob Wolton, Chair of Devon Hedge Group, can be contacted on 01837 810416 or robertwolton@yahoo.co.uk



Photo: Rob Wolton,
Devon Hedge Group