

news release



Conservation Volunteers
Northern Ireland

Conservation Volunteers Northern Ireland is part of BTCV, the UK's largest practical conservation charity. Founded in 1959, we help over 130,000 volunteers every year to take hands on action to improve both the rural and urban environment.

REGIONAL PRESS OFFICE: Conservation Volunteers Northern Ireland, Beech House, 159 Ravenhill Road, Belfast BT6 0BP
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Your local office is: **Dendron Lodge, Clondeboye Estate, Bangor, Co. Down, BT19 1RN. Telephone +44 (0) 28 9185 2817**



Londonderry Port and St. Oliver Plunkett's get digging!

It's tree planting season once more and Londonderry Port and St. Oliver Plunkett's Primary School, as part of National Tree Week, are digging for wildlife by planting native trees and shrubs.

Conservation Volunteers Northern Ireland and the *Northern Ireland Tree Campaign* (funded by Environment and Heritage Service) are teaming up with staff from the port and pupils from the school to improve an area near the port for the benefit of local people and wildlife. Two trees will also be planted at the school itself.

The port successfully applied to the *Northern Ireland Tree Campaign's* "Free Tree Scheme" to get trees for their grounds. Peter White, Londonderry Port Environmental Officer, said, "**This is part of a wider scheme to improve the area around the port for the benefit of biodiversity. By planting trees we can make a small contribution to improving our local environment and provide food and shelter for the wildlife that we all enjoy to see**".

Andy Smith, *Northern Ireland Tree Campaign* Biodiversity Officer, who dealt with the application, explained, "**This is an exciting project and we are pleased to be working with Londonderry Port in this, the third year of this very popular scheme. We aim to ensure that trees are not only planted abundantly, but that people understand why they are planting them, how to plant them correctly and most importantly, how to manage the trees to their best advantage once they are in the ground**".

The "*Free Tree Scheme*" is open to Schools and Community Groups across Northern Ireland, for more details contact Andy Smith, Biodiversity Officer on 028 9185 2817 or download an application form from the Northern Ireland Tree Campaign website www.nitc.org.uk

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NOTES TO EDITORS

The event starts at **10am on Friday 27th November at Lisahally**. For more information or for access to high-resolution photographs to include with this piece contact Andy Smith (a.smith@bctv.org.uk) on 9185 2817

Inspiring people, improving places

PATRON: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG, KT ● PRESIDENT: The Lord Norrie
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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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The **Northern Ireland Tree Campaign** is an initiative from Conservation Volunteers Northern Ireland, funded by Environment and Heritage Service. The Campaign's aim is to celebrate Northern Ireland's trees, people and natural heritage. It is also a tool to improve people's understanding of biodiversity and its local and global importance.

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