



# Cherry Tree Nursery

Caring for people, caring for plants.

---

## THIRD PROGRESS REPORT ON THE SUSTAINABLE BUILDING REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME AT CHERRY TREE NURSERY: COMPLETION OF PHASE I OCTOBER 2011

---



**T**he volunteers' new tearoom, rest and recreation area, along with the new kitchen and toilet block, are now virtually complete, and have been in daily use since the end of September. The only work remaining to be done are the final 'snagging's, which the builders will return to complete shortly.

The rooms are large, well-lit, airy and spacious, and the volunteers are thrilled finally to have the facilities they deserve. They have plenty of space to make their tea and coffee, and sit either quietly or in groups as they choose. The new construction has done wonders for their self-esteem. They are very proud of it and love to show the building off to others. Comments from visitors and members of the public are universally positive, and the sustainable technology is a source of great interest.

The excellent insulation of the building means that it has remained cool during the

recent hot spell, and warm on cold mornings, meaning we have not had any need to use the heating yet. The light coming from the roof, through the sunpipes and clerestory, is proving very beneficial.

The building was on show to the public during our recent Plant Sale, and it proved a wonderful space for people to have a hot drink and a piece of home-made cake and to browse the book and craft stalls. We have just had a hot soup lunch in it, with an atmosphere of great happiness.

To summarise, we now have a large kitchen with plenty of room to make hot and cold drinks. The relaxation area is very large, with a high roof. There are bright and roomy toilet facilities, a utility room and shower. Along the front of the building is the volunteers' very favourite area – a long covered verandah with benches. Four pairs of double doors open on to this.

**F**or many of our volunteers Cherry Tree is a community, their home and their family. Their greatest fear is that it will not always be there for them. The new building provides a symbol and a reinforcement that, now we have a 21-year lease, the project has a secure future. The difference is immeasurable.

We have already noticed a positive improvement in many volunteers' mental health resulting from the new building:

**"Just looking at it makes us feel better"**

**"It is just fantastic"**

**"It feels like home already"**

**"It is calming and peaceful"**

**"I like the serenity and the quietness"**

**"We have much more space now"**

**"It is lovely to be dry and warm"**

**"It gives us security, confidence and stability"**

**"It is truly magnificent"**

**"There is much more room to move about"**

**"It doesn't leak! There are no buckets to catch the drips!"**

**"It is so much lighter, and not damp and cold"**

**"We will be warm this winter, we won't be freezing cold any more"**

**"We have so much more room to move about"**

**"I find it both uplifting and embracing"**

**"A wonderfully warm and secure place for us all to rest, chat and enjoy a cuppa"**

**"It is very homely, with a warm calming effect"**

**"We will be able to have gatherings in it"**

**"It smells nice and natural!"**

**"Everyone likes it. We feel we belong in here. We feel at home"**

We would like to send our grateful thanks to everyone who has contributed to making such a difference to our volunteers' lives. Once the snagging is complete, we will have a small handover ceremony, prior to the official opening in the Spring, to which all funders will be invited. In the meantime, all donors would be most welcome to arrange an informal visit to see the wonderful new buildings. Please contact the nursery to arrange this.

## Plans and appeal for Phases 2 & 3

**N**ow that **Phase 1** is complete, the ramshackle dilapidated nature of our other portacabin-based buildings becomes evermore apparent. The roofs are leaking and the walls are cracking, the old structures are cold, damp and draughty, and desperately need to be replaced.

The plan drawn up by the **Dorset Centre for Rural Skills**, who have been considerate, thoughtful and supportive throughout the building process, provides for an extension of Phase 1 in the same style, in two blocks surrounding a small courtyard. This development was originally conceived in two Phases, in order to minimise disruption. However, we have now agreed that it would considerably reduce the overall cost of craneage and groundworks if the **two Phases** were built concurrently, and have had a new programme and costings drawn up accordingly.

The following costings include cranes and clearance, provision of temporary buildings, clearing and levelling of the site, foundations, connection of all services, construction and decoration. The timescale depends on when funding is in place. A more detailed breakdown of these costs is available on request.



		PHASE 2	PHASE 3
Dec (2012)	Prefabrication in workshop	£44,000	£50,000
Mar (2013)	Demolition, groundwork, frame assembly	£69,000	£84,000
May (2013)	Completion and finishing	£46,000	£41,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£159,000</b>	<b>£175,000</b>
	<b>Combined total</b>		<b>£334,000</b>



We are hoping that those individuals and organisations who were able to contribute to the funding of Phase 1 may consider helping us to complete the building programme. All the costs of Phase 1, including all the fixtures and fittings, are now covered and so far we have £40,000 pledged towards Phases 2 and 3, from two different trusts, payable when the rest of the money has been raised. This means that we have almost £300,000 to raise, while making sure that the work and effectiveness of the Nursery continues. After 21 years the services of our charity are in greater demand than ever, as is shown by the growing number of referrals received. At the same time it is becoming much harder to secure funding. The completion of the building programme would represent the recognition of the need for our work and the value of what we do, in a world where survival amidst the stresses and pressures of life becomes evermore difficult and precarious.

Thank you very much.

A list of donors is displayed both inside and outside the building.



**Cherry Tree Nursery**  
Caring for people, caring for plants.

[www.cherrytreenursery.org.uk](http://www.cherrytreenursery.org.uk)  
E-mail: [contactus@cherrytreenursery.org.uk](mailto:contactus@cherrytreenursery.org.uk)  
Facebook: Cherry Tree Nursery  
Telephone: (01202) 593537  
Off New Road Roundabout, Northbourne, Bournemouth BH10 7DA  
Reg. Charity No 900325

Graphic Design and photos donated by  
Newton Oliveira [www.12pm.com.br](http://www.12pm.com.br)

