OUR CAMPAIGN  
Calling All Women

LONDON EVENTS  
Activism & Empowerment

GROVES  
Community & Resilience
I am here to remember who I am
I am here because I am so much more
I am here because the past no longer has claim over my present
and my path is a path of liberation into love
I am here to bow to the mystery of all that I am and all that we
are and of all that is ready to reborn into wholeness.
I am here.

- From "All of Me"
by Clare Dubois
In the last few weeks, life has changed and not just for me. Talk about accelerated change. My God. Truth and reality are just waiting to flood in when the blinkers of denial finally drop and let’s face it, there has been a planet worth of denial going on.

I call it ‘the gap.’ That place where we don’t want to go. That place filled with feelings we don’t want to feel, responsibilities we don’t want to take, shadows we don’t want to own, truths we’d rather avoid, and more than that, our silent condoning of the greater atrocities towards self, other and planet that allow business as usual to continue.

In the last few weeks, Extinction Rebellion stuck its heart and soul into the gap worldwide and forced government to ... READ MORE
In Loving You

In loving you I have lived more.
I have known you within myself.
As the river hugs the land,
And the birds stroke the wind with their wings,
I have come to feel this world more because of you.

And as you leave to take your walk
amongst the everything of all time,
I know you dancing in the sway of the trees
And nestled among their roots,
I hear you as the birds give their song
and in the wild whispers of the grass
I feel you exalted and free
and I smile.

I bless you for the gift of you
I love you for the love of you.
I thank you for knowing you.
~ by Clare Dubois

In honour of Polly
Higgins who left this
world on the 21st April
2019
Quick Facts

Tree Projects
- Trees funded January to March: 722,201
- Total number of trees funded for our financial year to 19th March: 2,313,174
- Total trees funded to May: 4,804,119
- Reforestation partners: 4
- Ecosystems being restored: 8 within 6 countries
- Countries we’re impacting: Madagascar, Brazil, India, Nepal, Cameroon, and Kenya

Charitable Programs
- Grove Tenders group participants: 1000
- Nest Members: 2,182 & Growing

Organisation
- Volunteers: 58
- WaterCarriers 90
- Reach of social network: 275,000 individuals
- Monthly Donors: 3,328
Restoration is about love. Can we let ourselves fall back in love with the world that we’ve dominated for so long? Restoration is about reverence for Nature. Just because we’ve been taught to take whatever we want from Nature without ever thinking about giving back, doesn’t mean that it’s a sane, gentle or viable way to live. Restoration is about care. It’s about ensuring that those who inherit our world have all that they need to be safe.

These are the themes of our Calling All Women campaign which began on Tuesday 16th April and continued until Friday 17th May. We aimed high - to bring another 10,000 women into our network as treesisters. We didn't quite reach our target, however, we have called in well over 6000 new women to stand with us for the restoration of our world. Their donations have helped us to fund the planting of a further 163k trees per year.

We know that when women stand together as treesisters, they feel hopeful, a sense of belonging, and empowered to be the change. As Clare says in her letter:

“No-one should be alone in the gap, it is simply too much for one body, heart or soul to process and alchemise. Yes, the feelings are frightening, but when enough of us them face them together, the intensity is diluted. Shared, we can manage them. Above all, we close the gap when we turn fully to Nature and finally see Her face, as a living being of miraculous complexity that needs every one of her creations to hold the web of life together.”
During the campaign, over 400 women joined our shared online space - the Nest - where they can meet and support each other in togetherness for the earth. We provided access to amazing interviews with thought leaders and held other special campaign events, including a huge, live, global sistering event on the 7th of May. Each week we shared the momentum built through our collective action and our love for the planet. We know that together we will change the world!

RESTORATION IS LOVE

Watch our video
TreeSisters has been funding the International Tree Foundation’s (ITF) Mount Bamboutos Initiative for a full year now, re-robing it with trees. Mount Bamboutos is a volcanic extinct mountain range, that is part of Lebialem Highlands, in Southwest Cameroon. It is a powerful community-based reforestation project that regards the people as agents of change.

The Mount Bamboutos Initiative includes three administrative regions. TreeSisters focuses on the Southwest region (with 3 villages and 3,500 people) The Southwest represents the highest potential for forest restoration within the ITF-led initiative. With the presence of great apes (endangered River Cross gorillas and chimpanzees), the project gifts us with an excellent opportunity for rehabilitating their habitat through forest restoration.

**Reforestation Program Impacts**

The project is new, but it is being skillfully held by our trusted partner ITF, whom we have already had the pleasure to work with for three years in Kenya. Moreover, it is based on small-scale projects conducted by ERuDeF (ITF’s local partner) on the mountain in the last decade. ERuDeF’s work includes biological survey, biodiversity conservation and land restoration work. **READ MORE**

*All photos credit to ERuDeF*
We gathered, we sistered, we walked, sung and communed with the Beeches, Yews, Hollies, Hazels and Sycamores. And, between us, we raised enough to plant over 5,000 tropical trees too - what a wonderful day we had at Women of the Trees with Glennie Kindred.

On Saturday 13th April, nearly eighty of us gathered at Sheepscombe village hall in the Cotswolds in England for a one-day, treesister, in-person gathering with Clare and Glennie Kindred.

The day came out of Clare and Glennie's long held dream to come together as women for the trees and was made possible through a group of TreeSister volunteers beavering away for a few weeks behind the scenes, taking bookings and ensuring we would have all that we needed to host this many sisters in one space!

Women arrived mostly from the UK, but we were also graced with visits from Vanessa from France and our team member Louise from Australia who was over for various TreeSister meetings. READ MORE
On Wednesday 17th April, two private events were hosted by TreeSisters and Accelerating Change, with an intention to do just that - help TreeSisters vision to plant a billion trees a year move forward more quickly, and explore what it would take for us to become a restorer species.

Several members of the team worked on and attended the events, which received astonishing support from changemakers, influencers, business leaders, environmental journalists, along with representatives of the media. Both were held at the Conduit, just a few minutes from Extinction Rebellion peaceful demonstrations in Oxford Circus in support of climate change action. Both events were opened with a “Chant for the Bees”, a song performed and taught to the guests by Daiara Tukano, Brazilian Indigenous leader.

**Interview with Jon Snow (Lunch Event)**

The first event was a lunch with about fifty invited guests and an interview with prominent UK journalist Jon Snow, was an open invitation to key representatives of the business sector to support and catalyse TreeSisters mission in the world. In their conversation, the two covered the charity’s origins, projects, impacts, and vision for the future. After this, the audience engaged in a spirited Q&A session to come to a deeper understanding of what role their individual and company platforms of influence could play in making giving back normal.

*Video will be added soon*
Accelerating Change with TreeSisters (Evening Networking and Fundraising Event)

The second event was an evening networking and fundraising gathering of about one hundred and fifty sustainability bloggers, writers, journalists, media, entrepreneurs, and influencers. The group was treated to a musical performance by Nicoleta Carpineanu aka Nico de Transilvania, founder of Forests Without Frontiers.

Their mission is to plant trees for future generations and protect the last ancient forests with the help of music and arts. The evening culminated with a group meditation and paradigm shifting group intention exercise led by Clare, stirring everyone into meaningful conversations with each other that recognised each other’s highest purpose, greatest good, and deepest contribution to accelerating positive change in our world through TreeSisters’ mission.

To the left: TreeSisters team members Louise Tarrier. Giselle Carr, Jen Stevens, Sara Rushworth and Clare Dubois.

To the right: Louise Tarrier. Suzi Martineau, Giselle Carr, Jen Stevens and Sara Rushworth.
On May 1st, TreeSisters and our planting partner, International Tree Foundation (ITF), hosted an event in Oxford, UK attended by 20 global reforestation and conservation NGOs, to seed the concept of creating a collaborative global campaign titled Year of the Tree (YOTT). A further 35 groups sent apologies and have requested the Proceedings so that they can explore joining in. This is an ambitious call to groups and individuals across different tree sectors to unite, in order to be greater than the sum of our parts.

Our two objectives for the day were:

- **Collaborative Campaign**: To get to know each other’s work in a trusting open forum, and explore collaboration on a mass campaign in support of trees, large-scale reforestation that benefits communities, and a halt to deforestation.
- **Online Infrastructure**: To identify the relevant data sets, time scales and processes for pooling collective resources to create a web-based infrastructure that would support mass grassroots mobilisation for ecosystem regeneration.

Participants unanimously agreed to the following:

- Working collaboratively towards co-creating Year of The Tree and seeding the age of ecosystem restoration;
- Creating key themed areas of essential content for YOTT, and forming groups to support their development;
- Establishing two working groups to build and maintain the process for co-evolving YOTT: Infrastructure and Campaign; and,
- Developing a joint fundraising proposal to support this work.
ITF were formerly called ‘Men of the Trees’ and the co-parenting of this collaboration with TreeSisters is fully aligned to their charitable objectives and aims for 2020. During group discussions around key messaging, we saw strong support for the following to be central to the campaign: the call for feminine Nature-based leadership; embedding restoration in every financial transaction; and seeding trees in the hearts and minds of humanity.

A coordinating team (or secretariat) has been identified in TreeSisters and ITF.

A core group has also been meeting to birth this process since earlier this year, including Rebecca Lefton, Clare Dubois and Suzi Martineau of TreeSisters, Prajna Marcus of Coherence Labs (Hawaii), and Rebecca Mills of the Lever Room (NZ). It was acknowledged after the May 1st meeting that the coordinating team’s funding can be part of the joint funding proposal created by the group, or via a contribution from individual NGO participants to support the campaign. This will be discussed at the next group meeting.

Proceedings will be sent to groups that have expressed an interest, along with other charities, social groups, businesses and governmental organisations; such as the UN Summit for Nature Based Solutions, from whom we have already received an enthusiastic response. It was a huge achievement on the day to have all of the established and experienced groups come on board. We were particularly relieved to discover the amazing pre-built software and apps that both Tree-Nation and Trees for the Future have offered to bring to the Infrastructure group.
Celebrating your giving

Thank you so much for your support, generosity and care. We celebrate you! Your gifts make a lasting difference and your consistent support allows TreeSisters to plan strategically for the future.

FOR EVERY £10/USD$13 DONATED TO TREESISTERS, WE CAN FUND THE PLANTING OF 33 TREES!

When you directly fund our organisation then you are assisting us to engage with more individuals, and to spread the word through education about how funding trees each month has a direct impact on so many lives and ecosystems.

Together, we will continue to reforest the tropics, leading with our sisterhood and the deeply meaningful relationships that make anything feel possible.
Update: Our New Website & Donation System

We are confident that our new website will provide our donors and users a much smoother and more enjoyable experience. We have been very busy over the winter months thinking about how you use our website, and how we can create a welcoming experience, that enables you to access all the information you need and connect to us with ease.

We have partnered with GiveCloud, who is an agency bespoke to charity and NGO website builds. So far, we have created phase one of our new website development plan which will offer a clearer and more simplified user journey, donor experience, account functionality and much more. Over the coming months, further features and exciting enhancements will launch across our website as part of our digital strategy. We look forward to confirming and announcing release dates shortly.
Ways to provide support and contribute to our growing movement. Thank you!

Become a monthly TreeSister member and plant leafy green trees! Join our 3,000+ Members by signing up here.

Become a WaterCarrier! Are you a small business owner? Contribute a portion of your business profits to the trees. Please visit our WaterCarrier’s program webpage or contact Terra at support@treesisters.org.

To Fundraise in aid of TreeSisters please check out our fundraising webpage with helpful tips and to register your event.

Would you like to make building the TreeSisters movement a core part of your philanthropic strategy? Contact Clare Dubois at clare@treesisters.org or Louise Tarrier at louise@treesisters.org about a major gift, foundation grant, or to provide a legacy to trees with a gift in your will. We also welcome contact and feedback from our donors so please do not hesitate to keep in touch.

www.treesisters.org
UK Charity ID. 1149961

Top photo courtesy Project Greenhands