



Organic Agroforestry—Local Food—Enterprise Stacking—People—Research

Fressingfield Annual Report 2024-205

We've had a great year at Wakelyns.

Lots of people joined us for our three main community events of the year— Agroforestry Open Weekend in May, Dal Festival in July and Apple Day in September. See some photos on the next page.

It was also a great pleasure to host the Contemporary Hempery Hemp Harvest Retreat in August; and groups from a wide range of local and national organisations including local WI groups, the Land Workers Alliance and the National Coppice Federation; and we were delighted when Mid Suffolk District Council's Chair Rowland Warboys chose Wakelyns as to the place to host council leaders from around the region including Mid Suffolk's Leader, Planning Committee Chair and Planning Committee Vice Chair. It's great to have their support.

And of course, our regular programme of Tree Walks, Bird Walks and Willow Weaving continued through the summer (being joined in 2025 by Traditional Bowl Turning and Tracking courses).

Meanwhile our community of 'stacked enterprises' has been joined by Kitty Wilson-Brown (Wakelyns Textiles), Carrie Phoenix (Natural Habitat), Tim and Jo (WakelynsVeg), Harry Read (Wakelyns Nature), Rosie Howes (Wakelyns Organic Lamb) and Lindsay Wright and Nicola Horden (Silva Kitchen and Bakery), who will be launching their programme of Community Suppers and Saturday Breakfasts from later in the Spring 2025.

We look forward to welcoming everyone from Fressingfield in 2025.

Agroforestry?

Wakelyns comprises lines of trees - some for timber, some for fruit, some for biomass, with crops in between: YQ populations wheat, lentils, hemp, squash, vegetables and more



Even as recently as 2021, agroforestry was a bit of a fringe subject here in the UK. But two years ago the Government announced that - to help tackle climate change by planting more trees - 10% of UK farmland is to be agroforestry by 2050. To encourage that to happen, the farm subsidy regime is changing: the old £250/hectare flat rate has almost completely gone; in its place new schemes which will pay farms with agroforestry and other environmentally beneficial farming something over £1,000/hectare. Agroforestry is coming of age. Meanwhile, Wakelyns - having been planted in 1994 - is perhaps the oldest diverse alley cropping agroforestry site in the UK, and one of the most celebrated in Europe.

More information on our website:

www.wakelyns.co.uk

(sign up there to get our monthly newsletters)

@wakelyns @contemporaryhempery @kittywilsonbrownart
@naturalhabitatcommunity @amanda_at_wakelyns
@wakelynsveg42 @willowphoenix.suffolk @harryreadphoto

Wakelyns 2024-2025

Wild Weaving, Dal Festival, Tree Walks, Bird Walks, Community Apple Day, Natural Wood Turning, Hemp Harvest Retreat, Agroforestry Open Weekend, Willow Weaving and more

