

Merrist Wood College Arboricultural Association Student Conference

Posted on 13 November 2018

The Arboricultural Association held their first ever Student Conference at Merrist Wood College on Friday 19 and Saturday 20 October 2018 to celebrate 50 years of teaching Arboriculture at the College. The event gave an introduction to the work of the Arboricultural Association, plus keeping you up to date with the latest technology, updates and advice.

Friday's timetable was made up mainly of seminars, including what's new in Arboriculture and a Pests and Diseases workshop, plus a state-of-the-art digital microscope and imaging system so students could see pests and diseases at 30–40× magnification.

Saturday involved lots of hands-on activities and demonstrations including a climbing demonstration and forum. There was also an outdoor demo using the latest range of soil de-compaction systems and a "tree pests and diseases walk" held by Sally Schuck, Curriculum Area Lead for Land based Programmes here at Merrist Wood College, accompanied by previous Arboriculture lecturer, Jack Kenyon.

Sally said 'At Merrist Wood College, we are proud to have been delivering Arboricultural courses for 50 years. Over 5 decades the industry has grown and evolved into a thriving sector with a wide range of job roles to suit those with a variety of skills. We were delighted to join forces with the Arboricultural Association in delivering a student conference as a celebration and to make available key current topics for Arboricultural students.'

A *Liquidambar styraciflua* 'Worplesdon' was planted by the College principal Jacki Hughes and the High Sheriff Jim Glover, to commemorate 50 Years of delivering Arboricultural courses at Merrist Wood College.

Visit our Arboriculture & Forestry subject area to find out more information about the courses we offer.

<https://www.merristwood.ac.uk/SubjectAreas/Arboriculture/Arboriculture.aspx>

