

Species of the week

Helicopters by Kevin Hinchcliffe

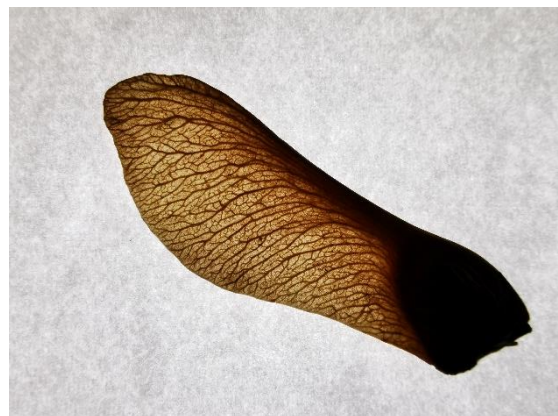


Sycamore winged fruit (samaras or keys) or helicopters as we know and love.

When I was growing up these used to be and still are a source of fun, collecting the biggest driest one you can find and joyfully leaping into the air throwing it as high as you can to be the slowest one to hit the ground.

Recently at work, whilst we were moving some items to an external holding area, the nearby trees were looking great in their autumnal colours shedding their leaves and fruits around us. We had a "yoof" training with us for the day, looking really puzzled with me when I dove to the floor picking a few up helicopters, happily launching them into the air, one even flew right in front of their confused looking faces (probably wondering where the controller for it was) asking "what are you up to?" I carried on and said "playing with mi helicopter, like we used to when I was a bairn". Which was greeted with a tut.

I should have confused them even more by saying I'm seed dispersing but I thought I'd best not.



Kevin's always looking to show something different in his photos, here he is showing us the veins in the seed.