

Studley Community Orchard

As you may be aware we have planted 13 trees, 10 apple trees and 3 plum trees at Studley Gardens with the support of 18 volunteers from the community and under the watchful eye of Richard Cribbs, a local Orchard planting expert and Russell Hughes, our local tree warden. We also held a successful Wassail Event on January 5th, which was attended by approximately 50 people.

We have chosen a selection of different species of apple trees to cover eaters, cookers, juicers and cider apples. 2 of them are from the South West and we have chosen the species that are from the areas geographically close to Derry Hill: Beauty of Bath from Bath and Roundway Magnum Bonus from Devizes.

Just as a reminder, the aims of the orchard are:

- To provide a source of free locally grown produce to residents.
- To provide a focal point for community activities, such as Orchard Days, Apple Pressing, picnics, story-telling events, Wassailing, etc., increasing community cohesion.
- To be used as an educational resource for local school in Derry Hill and other children.
- To provide an opportunity for community members to learn new skills – both through the maintenance of the orchard trees and through the use of the fruit.
- To provide a pleasant outdoor space for people to relax and socialise in.
- To enhance the visual and aesthetic environment

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council's Climate & Environment Working Group organises an activity to make insect houses and bird boxes as part of the VE Day picnic on Saturday 3rd May, and that the Council promotes with posters and on its FB page. No budget is required for this activity.

Kate has kindly agreed to make a flyer / poster if agreed. We would also appreciate any help on the day.

Sue Deedigan