



Protecting the architectural and historic quality of Chipping Campden, its open spaces and its natural setting.

September 2024

Dear Member

APPLE DAY * SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER * 11AM – 3 PM
LONGEST PEEL * APPLE IDENTIFICATION *APPLE JUICE
ALL WELCOME

Apples have a long and rich history, with evidence of cultivation dating as far back as Roman times. In the Middle Ages, apples became a staple of British orchards and the harvest was an important event when the whole community would come together to bring the crop in and celebrate. Apple Day marks a nod to this past. It provides an opportunity to celebrate our harvest, while also enabling visitors to enjoy the natural open space and the unique social amenity provided by our Community Orchard. The event is open to all and free to attend, offering a range of family-friendly activities celebrating the apple harvest and local traditions.

So come and explore the Orchard. If you have apples you are trying to identify, we have Steve Oram from the People's Trust for Endangered Species who can advise. There will be apple-related activities, including a session making apple crisps, with some samples to try, and the ever-popular longest peel competition.

We are running this event in conjunction with Campden Home Nursing who will be hosting a selection of garden games, such as Jenga, Splat the Rat, and Buzz Wire, alongside children's art activities and live entertainment. The Cotswold Friends 'Men in Sheds' group will also be present with examples of their work.

The first batch of our 2024 Wolds End Orchard apple juice will be on sale; as will honey collected from the hives at the Orchard. Campden Home Nursing will be offering refreshments, including home-baked apple cakes and bakes using fruit from Wolds End Orchard. (A small charge for the refreshments). As we are in the midst of harvesting, we cannot allow dogs inside the orchard for hygiene reasons.

Traditional orchards should be celebrated - both for their ecological importance but also their cultural place, drawing together the community at this time of harvest. In this sense, Wolds End Orchard is indeed core to Campden's community. So do come along and enjoy the day!

Work undertaken in Wolds End Orchard is entirely volunteer led. We hold our usual work parties on 2nd and 4th Saturdays: 10 – 12 noon. This month they will be 12 & 26 October (Apple Day); next month: 9 & 23 November. Please note these in your diaries.

We are keen to link the Orchard with other community groups. So this past month we have been so pleased to develop further three important links: a stall at the **Twinning Association's** welcome event for the French visitors from Pont D'Ouilly, at the Cider Mill Theatre, which expanded our fruit-related vocabulary in French quite a bit! Also, a tray of our Newton Wonders has been donated to the **Community Lunch** cooks to make desserts.



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In addition we have welcomed 30 pupils from Blockley school, in collaboration with the **Court Barn Museum**. Sarah, the Museum curator, laid on a full programme of art work and discovering the Arts and Crafts history of the area, and included a visit to the Orchard, on a beautiful sunny morning. We saw the children picking and enjoying plums, apples and blackberries, running around in the open space and learning how the web of life in the orchard sustains us and other creatures. They ended their visit by all sitting to eat their packed lunches on the grass. A lovely sight.

We are looking to extend and co-ordinate our work party groups to help in other practical ecological projects being undertaken in Campden. So if these volunteering opportunities are of interest to you, please do get in touch. We are a sociable friendly bunch and can offer a variety of tasks in the open air.

Best wishes from Geoff, Marilou, Susie, Mike, John, Geoffrey, Steven and Owen.

EXPLORE THE ORCHARD The October dates are Monday 7 & Friday 18 from 10.30 – 3.30. Come for a wander, a sit, or just to eat your lunch! You are welcome to pick some fruit to go with your picnic.

PLANNING & CONSERVATION MATTERS

Campden House Estate Wetlands Project

Tom Smith from Campden House Estate will be giving a talk about his Project on:

TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER at the Town Hall. 7pm for 730pm.

Started earlier this year following extensive surveying, design, and consultation in 2022/23, the work includes the formation of leaky dams to help siltation along the valley; the creation of reedbeds, scrapes, and marsh in the area of the former bathing lake; and planting of a rough pasture buffer zone with native wildflower seed to entrap field runoff and improve biodiversity. The project is supported by Cotswolds National Landscape and the Environment Agency.

Organised by the Campden Society, the talk is free but we would like people to please register so we know how many chairs to put out. Please email campdensociety20@gmail.com phone Vanessa on 849228 or go to our Facebook page for the Eventbrite link.

Best wishes,

Elizabeth Devas

Chair