



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

March 23

Dear Member

AGM – Thursday 27 April 7 for 7.30pm

Our AGM this year will be held on **Thursday 27 April** in the **Upper Town Hall** where we will be voting to approve the appointment of Committee Members and also to approve two constitutional amendments.

We have vacancies on the Society's main committee. The committee meets once a month. Enthusiasm for the town, a willingness to pitch in and a few hours spare a week are all that is necessary. Further details can be found in the **Notice to Members**. If you are interested, please contact us via campdensociety20@gmail.com for an informal chat.

The **Notice to Members** is included in this pack. In this Notice there is an Eventbrite link and phone number to register your attendance, an agenda, and the Committee candidates' biographies. A **Memorandum** giving fuller explanation of the proposed amendments (postal voting and reduction in lapsed membership renewal to coincide with AGM dates) and a **marked and amended version of our Constitution** are also enclosed. For your information, the Minutes of the 2022 AGM are included.

We do hope that as many members as possible can join us for a glass of wine or Campden apple juice.

After Society business, we are delighted to have **Andy Parsons, Chief Executive of the Cotswolds National Landscape Board**, as our guest speaker. Andy will be talking about the wide scope of his team's work in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with a particular focus on their activities which have an impact on Campden and the surrounding area, such as the Cotswold Way National Trail, the Farming in Protected Landscapes grants programme; and Glorious Grasslands – an ambitious programme to create and restore wildflower-rich grassland across the Cotswolds. Andy lives with his family in Moreton-in-Marsh and his wife is a teacher at Chipping Campden School. He coaches the Chipping Campden Cricket Juniors and was part of the Pavilion fundraising team.

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Orchard Blossom Weekend : Saturday 22 & Sunday 23 April from 10.30 - 4 each day.



Come and enjoy what we hope will be a breath-taking pink and white mosaic at Wolds End Orchard, with over 120 fruit trees. Bring friends, family, a picnic if the weather is good – apple juice will be on sale! Or perhaps bring along your camera or some art materials so you can enjoy this brief spell of breaking blooms at the start of the annual growing cycle.

This year we will welcome pupils from three local primary schools who will be visiting the orchard as they learn about biodiversity via Court Barn's Art Fund Project, *The Wild Escape*. The project launches on Saturday 22 April – which is also Earth Day – and everyone is welcome to join Court Barn at 11am as they launch the project and then walk up to enjoy the orchard.

Just pop in over the weekend and have a wander around!

Note: The orchard is very uneven underfoot so ensure you wear appropriate footwear. Also, no dogs please as the orchard is a nature reserve as well as a working orchard.

Bees! Hundreds of new residents appeared in the orchard on 11 March. Campden Society members, Andy and Becky Parker, moved two hives of honeybees into the far corner. They will be looking after their bees over the coming months and, we hope, the inhabitants will boost pollination as well as create some delicious honey later in the year, some of which we hope to sell at future events.

Tree Planting. Our thanks to Kim & the 1st Chipping Campden Brownies who joined us with their families in February to plant eight fruit trees – the Wolds End Children's Mini Orchard. Specially selected on small rootstock, these little plum, apple, pear and cherry varieties will grow to c.2m allowing younger visitors to tend the trees and enjoy picking the fruit. This project was supported by the National Lottery Communities Fund as part of the Queen's Green Canopy project.

Work Parties are taking place every 2nd and 4th Saturday mornings (10 – noon) when the orchard will also be open for visitors to come in and have a look around. Orcharders are absolutely essential to operations and **new volunteers are always welcome, so if you are looking for a new hobby in the Spring, why not come and join us?**

Our next **Art Open Afternoon** will be **2 - 4pm on Friday 21 April**. Bring your own art materials and come for the whole time, or whatever part suits you. If you register your interest by contacting foweo2020@gmail.com, or texting 07966734731, we can let you know if the dates change due to weather or other circumstance – but do feel free to just roll up on the day too, even if it's just for a wander. As always, everyone is welcome.

Update from the Wolds End Orchard Sub Committee: Geoff Carr, Julianne Davis, John Ellis, Donna Evans, Chris Leese, Mike Newman, Susie Tombs, Geoffrey White.

PLANNING MATTERS

We are helping the Town Council with the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan. The proposal to get consultancy support for this process will be discussed at April's Town Council meeting. Once the NDP draft is finalised by the Town Councillors, there will be a consultation period for residents to have their say before it passes on to the next stage of approval and consultation. We hope everyone will get involved as it will eventually create a legal framework for Planning Applications.

We are continuing to monitor applications and work with others to argue for more strategic thinking, better design, and a more environmentally friendly approach to planning. We encourage everyone to submit their individual views about planning applications.

Campden Buildings History Register. Chipping Campden and Broad Campden have a high density of old and Historic England Listed buildings. They are an important part of the character, beauty, and significance of our settlement. The history and development of these buildings are documented in many different ways including house deeds; family history records; heritage assessments; planning reports; and the Historic England database.

The Campden Society is developing a project to bring together all this information so we can create a profile of each house to help future historians, architects and owners. We can also investigate themes and styles which can further our understanding of the built history of Campden. Can you help us? If you would like to join the team, please contact the society to register your interest. We will be having an informal meeting for potential volunteers in April.

We do hope that you will join us for a glass of wine or Campden apple juice on Thursday 27 April.

With our best wishes,

Elizabeth Devas - Chair

campdensociety20@gmail.com

APPLE JUICE made from Wolds End Orchard and Campden gardens is available to purchase at £3.25 a 75cl bottle. They can be bought from Rachel's Stall in Back Ends.

Alternatively we can deliver cases at a discounted price to members : 6 bottles at £18 or 12 bottles at £36 in the Campden area; to purchase a case or cases, please contact Geoffrey White on 0781 500 5879 or email geoffreywhite@gmail.com.