

MARCHER APPLE NETWORK

RHWYDWAITH AFALAU' R GORORAU

Newsletter No 9

Non-Members £2.00

Summer 2003

CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW OF THE YEAR

We have reached the end of ten years as, first, an unincorporated association, and then a company limited by guarantee. After a period of negotiation with the Charity Commissioners, *MAN* achieved charitable status at the end of last year, greatly enhancing opportunities to obtain grant-aid funding and advantageous treatment in various ways.

You will see, from the new heading for this publication, that we now have a bilingual name. The Welsh translates as Border Apple Network.

We also managed to set up a web-site, thanks to the specialist skills generously donated by our Web Master, Richard Wheeler. We seem to be receiving an increasing number of 'visits'.

At different times during the past year we have managed to arrange pruning demonstrations, for which we are indebted to the expertise provided by our Nurseryman colleague, Paul Davis, whose business is based at Capel Isaac, Llandeilo, and by Fred Essex-Clegg, a retired horticulturalist who travelled across to Glasbury from Wolverhampton. These events have been well attended, and it is hoped that the participants will be willing to put their new skills into practice, at pruning sessions at our various nursery orchards, with extra guidance if they wish. Just let us know if you would like to help with either winter or summer pruning so that we can phone you when a session is planned.

This Autumn we have arranged for our AGM to take place at the Shirehall, St. Peter's Square, Hereford, to celebrate the end of *MAN's* first decade. [See Events P.30-31 for further details.]

Quite a lot of time and effort in the past year has been devoted to looking for additional planting opportunities in Herefordshire, which have involved site visits and meetings. The launch of 'Project Carrot' – with its strong environmental overtones – at the Holme Lacy campus a few miles from Hereford, encouraged us to believe that there could be scope for a collection orchard alongside that already set up by Bulmers for cider fruit. However, in due course, it emerged that such a project did not accord with their overall plans. We were then approached by the Curriculum Director of the Pershore/Holme Lacy College with an offer (subject to agreement by other parties) of three parcels of land at Whitbourne Hall – a fascinating property right on the Worcestershire border, but none of these options found much support among the Committee. The sites each had drawbacks and the location would have necessitated work parties travelling considerable distances. Finally, our attention has turned to Herefordshire's Golden Valley, (part of the

historic area of Archenfield) where the Countryside Restoration Trust has purchased, amid useful publicity, an unspoilt traditional farm of some 250 acres, thanks to the initiative of a local retired land surveyor, Ian Hart, whose plans there include voluntary project enterprises. This land, at Turnastone Court, includes meadows which were the subject of artificial 'drowning', using a system of sluices and channels connected to the River Dore by the pioneer landowner, Roland Vaughan, in the 16th Century, to improve his hay crops, an idea inspired by the activities of a mole! After inspection of the site with Ian, we have expressed an interest in two plots of ground for planting purposes, one for a standard collection of local varieties, the other, with a larger acreage, for a predominantly cider fruit collection, bearing in mind the current uncertainties surrounding cider fruit production in Herefordshire, and the need to safeguard historically significant cultivars.

We also carried out a planting exercise at Lower Ffordd-fawr, between Hay and Glasbury, on a small area kindly offered to us at a peppercorn rent by David Goodwin, one of our members. At this site we have set up a small experimental orchard, on M9 rootstocks, to trial unusual specimens whose identity is uncertain. Unfortunately, part of this area was found to have little depth of soil when planted, but the trees will be kept small by regular pruning.

Trees in our other planted collections continue to progress, and a modicum of fruit was gathered last Autumn. In one particular case, at Tredomen Court, a small crop of apples was gathered from a tree which looks like some variant of the mediaeval Costard, and which we have named after its place of provenance at Lower Hardwick, near Pembridge, in Herefordshire, prompting us to wonder whether it is indeed one of those referred to in the text of 'The Herefordshire Pomona', but neither described nor illustrated. We continue to look for other lost varieties.

Ray Boddington

DINGESTOW AGM REPORT

The new village hall at Dingestow, Monmouth, was a most satisfactory venue for the AGM. Ray Boddington, Chairman, welcomed all to the meeting. The minutes of the previous AGM were confirmed and signed and the Treasurer, Tom Froggatt, presented the accounts, which showed a healthy position although scanning of the Pomona plates and purchasing of computer equipment would use up the generous grants already received from Herefordshire Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

A resolution to amend the constitution was passed and it was hoped that we would now obtain charitable status.

There was some discussion on cider fruit etc. and it was decided to form a Cider Apple and Perry Pear Sub-Group with a sub-committee. Any members requiring more information should contact Richard Cheshire, Tel. 01544-327887 or Tony Malpas, Tel. 01568-613023.

In his report, the Chairman spoke of the various 'museum orchards' which had been planted up and mentioned the problems which were being encountered. The Spring News Sheet had been published and the questionnaire was providing useful

information. The booklet, 'Apples of the Welsh Marches' was proving very popular and the website was now up and running. The agreement of Sir Andrew Large to become our first President was warmly received. The Chairman thanked individual committee members for their particular contributions to the running of the Network and events and, in declaring the meeting closed, asked those present to join the public in viewing the displays, identifications and tastings, asking pomological questions and, of course, tucking into the unforgettable apple-based refreshments. Another successful day.

Tom Froggatt

THE YEAR'S EVENTS ON THE WELSH SIDE OF THE BORDER

There is a new grant award organisation based in Builth Wells which may be of interest to those of our members living in Powys, or as I still prefer to think of the area, Breconshire, Radnorshire and Montgomeryshire. I asked Becky Webb to send an outline of their aims:-

Glasu

Glasu is Powys' LEADER+ programme that awards grants to those wanting to "add value to natural products in Powys".

Meaning "to green" in Welsh, Glasu is based in Builth Wells and covers Powys, apart from the main urban centres of Ystradgynlais, Brecon, Llandrindod Wells, Newtown and Welshpool.

Glasu's remit is to assist projects that are:

- Innovative (either completely new or new to Powys),
- Aiming to be more sustainable,
- Based on natural products,

Glasu has three main strands that it is able to focus on and they are as follows:

1. **Energy from Waste** – giving new value to something that is perceived as being waste – wood off-cuts or forestry brush, composting, anaerobic digestion, animal waste etc
2. **New Harvest** – Food – Powys is traditionally good at producing food, but poor at adding value to it locally. Glasu would assist those looking, for example, to process their meat products further locally, or wishing to test new recipes, or testing Powys soils to grow more unusual products like truffles or ingredients for real dandelion and burdock, etc – the list is endless.
3. **The Country Store** is for the non-food natural products – wood, wool, leather, plants etc – from growing herbs for alternative therapists, to using wool for commercial scale insulation.

Contact us at: Glasu, Antur Gwy, Park Road, Builth Wells, Powys, LD2 3BA.
Tel. 01982-552224 or visit our web page at www.glasu.org.uk

Glasu is funded by the European Agriculture, Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF), Welsh Assembly Government, Powys County Council and the private sector.

Becky Webb

Apple Day at Penlanole

For the first time, two years ago, one of our members in Wales, Philip Bowen, opened his orchard in the Wye Valley and a very enjoyable day was had by all the visitors. It was so successful, that it has become an annual event and the orchard area provides a very pleasant setting for members in Powys, or from further afield, to meet each other and 'talk apples'. Philip has written to say:-

The orchard at Penlanole will be open to the public on Sunday, September 14th, from 2.00pm. There will be music and dancing, a bar, and I hope that the Marcher Apple Network will have a stall and I am sure that Paul Davis will be present. Penlanole is on the A470 between Rhayader and Newbridge -on-Wye. There will be signs within a hundred yards to alert you. Last year's open day made £600 for local charities and The Samaritans. Surely we can do better this year? [See Events P.29]

Glasu, the LEADER+ programme for Powys, has asked me to assess the orchards within the county with a view to establishing a Community Apple Press and I am trying to contact orchard owners in Powys through already existing networks, of which MAN is one.

There are funds from Glasu to assist Powys residents who would like to improve the management and condition of their orchards. These funds would provide the opportunity for training in identification of apple varieties, pruning, grafting, juicing etc. This would help to add value to these local orchards and could hopefully lead to the development of other small-scale apple-based industries.

I would be very grateful if you could jot down the answers to these four questions and send them to me, along with your name and address:-

1. How old is your orchard?
2. How many trees are there in your orchard?
3. What do you do with the fruit at the moment?
4. Would a community press interest you?

Thank you

Philip Bowen
Penlanole
Llanwrthwl
Llandrindod Wells
LD1 6NN

Or e-mail: shakespeare.link@virgin.net

2003 Royal Welsh Smallholder Magazine Weekend

Once again, MAN shared a stand with Paul Davis at the Smallholder Show at Llanelwedd on May 17th/18th. The Show again included a Garden Festival and the event attracted even more people than the 13,000 of the previous year. May is not a good time for an apple themed display but there was a lot of interest and numerous sales of the new 'Apples of the Welsh Marches'.

Paul gave a talk on both days about the Marcher Apple Network and these were quite well attended and he had some young trees for sale.

Our request in last year's Newsletter for help on the stand brought a very welcome response from Pauline Sykes, one of our members from the Llandeilo area, who was able to travel with Paul on the Sunday and provide a great deal of assistance. She recruited a number of new members. Any helpers get a free ticket, so please come forward and offer some help at the shows. Enthusiasm is the main requirement and with two or three people on the stand, there is the opportunity for each one to browse around. If you don't know much about apples you can sell the books!

Sheila Leitch

The Museum of Old Varieties of Welsh Apple Trees

One of our members, John Lyle, has set up this collection at his farm, Pant-y-Rhedyn, Gellywen, Carmarthenshire. Tel. 01994-484750. He has produced a leaflet giving the background to this collection and says he now has planted 21 varieties, each planted as a bush and also a standard tree. A further four have been found and grafted. He says "I am most anxious to find and save other varieties of old Welsh Apple Trees. Every year more old varieties are lost and I should be most grateful if anyone knows of the location and name of any old variety of such trees they would be kind enough to let me know where they are". He has included, with permission, the Welsh varieties described in the MAN booklet 'Apples of the Welsh Marches'.

Sheila Leitch

ORCHARD GLEANINGS 2003

Last September we were invited to identify some old apple trees in the gardens of members of MAN at Titley, North Herefordshire. We found an interesting collection of apples, including Lady Henniker, Mère de Ménage, Ashmead's Kernel, Golden Noble and Allington Pippin, but two large old trees have, so defeated our attempts at their identification. One produced small, flattish apples with a large open eye and greenish russeted skin, resembling Sam Young; the other had tall conical fruits with a purplish flush, somewhat reminiscent of Northern Spy. Both have been grafted for further study in one of our collections.

In October several traditional farm orchards were visited on identification missions. At the H.Q. of the Herefordshire Nature Trust at Lower House Farm, Hereford, we found heavy crops on most trees. In recent years the Trust has planted a new orchard of about twenty standard apple trees, but an older orchard survives on the bank just behind the farmhouse. This contains fifteen varieties of apples which had been chosen to provide both dessert and culinary fruit over a long period. Early eaters, including Epicure, Fortune and Worcester Pearmain lead on to Lord Lambourne, Rival, Egremont Russet and Ribston Pippin. Monarch, Newton Wonder and Bramley's Seedling provided the cookers. In good years the wide span of ripening and keeping times would have ensured a continuous supply of apples for the household or market.

At Bodenham an older farm orchard, now managed by Herefordshire Council, was visited. Here a similar range of apples was identified, with Worcester Pearmain,

again, the most popular eater and Bramley's Seedling the most planted cooker. Varieties not seen at Lower House included King of the Pippins, Lady Sudeley, Golden Spire (from Tom Matthews), Annie Elizabeth and Warner's King. In this orchard cookers outnumbered dessert varieties, whereas at Lower House there were twice as many dessert varieties as cookers. To complicate identification, a couple of trees at Bodenham had been grafted with branches of a different cultivar.

We were delighted to make a return visit to explore the orchards of Mr. John Bunn at Checkley. Some of the very old trees there rarely bear fruit and every Autumn there are fresh puzzles to unravel. On this occasion two trees with medium-sized, dark red apples with prominent lenticels, which Mr. Bunn called 'The Leopard', foiled our attempts at identification. Another tall tree which had very large fruits closely resembling the Kentish Fillbasket plate in 'The Herefordshire Pomona', also remains a mystery. There were some fine specimens of Severn Bank, Blenheim Orange and Court Pendu Plat and many other sorts to examine. The ancient Winter Quoining bore some good fruit despite the crown being only precariously supported by a narrow segment of its decayed, hollow trunk. It is important that we propagate as many as possible of the puzzling old trees from this fascinating collection, before they succumb to old age.

MAN helped to produce the 'Traditional Orchards' section of the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan published in September 2002. This outlines targets and actions to safeguard the future of local traditional orchards and fruit varieties. Several of the policies highlighted in these official plans have been pioneered by MAN. The organisation of training courses to develop orcharding skills such as pruning and grafting [see P.22], encouraging the planting and restocking of orchards using local varieties, identification of fruit and the establishment of museum orchards featuring rare local varieties, are just a few of the ways in which we are helping to further the objectives of the Biodiversity Action Plan. The recent publication of our booklet 'Apples of the Welsh Marches' is another positive contribution. Yet another way in which MAN is well placed to help is in the organisation of surveys to discover more about the distribution of local orchards, the cultivars still being grown and other information about their ecology. To take this forward we have drawn up a 'pro forma' which we will use in future orchard surveys. Members are invited to help in trialling the new forms, which will be available at MAN events this Autumn or by post from Mike Porter.

Recently there has been considerable debate about the relative merits of different types of orchards, root stocks and management techniques in achieving effective conservation of local fruit varieties and encouraging a healthy orchard ecosystem. These objectives often seem at odds; every orchard is, to some extent, a compromise. Routine operations, such as pruning or harvesting fruit, are more awkward with standard trees, as opposed to smaller plants on dwarfing rootstocks. On the other hand, standard trees live longer and traditional orchards afford greater opportunities for associated animals and plants. It is difficult enough to manage an orchard in an ecologically-friendly way whilst ensuring the survival of a gene bank of rare cultivars - let alone produce crops of high quality fruit.

On July 22nd 2003 we had our first sight of a red kite hunting over our orchard at

Llangynidr; this week the same orchard has been the venue for practical demonstrations as two green woodpeckers taught their sturdy offspring how to catch ants. But we can sympathize with Sarah Juniper and her tale of woes [see Newsletter 8 pp10-11]. We have our share of aphids, codlin moth, mildew, brown rot, scab and canker. An army of bracken fronds is advancing from the hedgerow; crows, jays and grey squirrels are once again laying waste to the early dessert apples, and since early June, blue tits have been checking the state of ripeness of apples, pears and plums by pecking small holes in a large sample of fruit. In our orchard the balance between fruit production and fostering biodiversity has perhaps tipped too far towards wildlife conservation, but the choral competition between four song thrushes throughout last Spring afforded us major compensation.

Mike Porter

NEWS OF OUR ORCHARDS

TREDOMEN COURT, Llanfili, Breconshire.

Many of the apple trees at Tredomen produced their first real crop in 2002 and some were on display at the AGM at Dingestow, in October. This gave us the opportunity to try to put names to some of the 'unknowns' and to use some of the named varieties as a tool with which to compare fruit brought for identification. Annie Elizabeth (D16 Tredomen) was used to establish, at last, the name of an apple which had been causing problems in identification in one old orchard we have visited for several years; the same shape and colour variations are becoming more apparent as the Tredomen tree matures. The healthy young trees, sometimes grafted from unidentifiable parents, produce unblemished fruit which it is much easier to recognise; so now we know Plas Wye No. 2 is Alexander, Bringsty Cooker is Chelmsford Wonder and Tyr Uched Codlin, after research, is identified as Sugarloaf Pippin, an apple on the 'wanted' list.

It was interesting that A4 from Llyswen, now known to be King's Acre Bountiful, developed a splendid colour in 2002, also observed on our tree at Llangynidr. Most years this apple remains a very pale green.

However, 2003 looks to be a lean year for fruit at Tredomen. We had sharp frosts at blossom time, followed by wet, blustery weather in May and very few trees appear to have retained fruit. When the trees were pruned and labelled with their new 'Alitags' last Winter, about a dozen trees were suffering from a stem rot which appeared to be have been aggravated by their spiral guards. Although the guards protect against rabbit damage, they restrict ventilation and produce a climate which favours the development of bark rot. Too late for some of our precious trees, these spirals have now been removed. Members might appreciate this warning.

Now there are nearly two hundred trees at Tredomen and maintenance is becoming a big consideration. We had a work party to prune and tidy up in February which was most enjoyable and everyone worked hard. Branches left from a hedge pruning operation fuelled a large bonfire which helped to keep us warm on a bitterly cold day. If we get our much needed mower and trailer it should help to keep the orchard in better condition. Future work parties will offer opportunities to members to meet others with similar interests and enjoy the fresh Tredomen air.

Chris Porter

CROFT PENDARREN, Llangynidr, Breconshire.

There are now thirty five varieties of apples and a few are beginning to bear fruit. Six more trees were planted in the Winter. Although the blossom was good this Spring only a few trees have a crop.

Chris Porter

WESTHOPE, near Canon Pyon, Herefordshire.

Like last year, many of the fifteen standard trees have little fruit. However there are some notable exceptions with Duke of Devonshire, Prince Alfred, Severn Bank, Domino and Winter Quoining bearing decent levels of fruit. Domino cropped well last year too.

The top grafted Newland Sack, grafted on to what was thought to be Butter Apple, is doing well and there are three good shoots which augurs well for the future.

Deer are a constant problem here but the substantial cages generally keep them at bay. However, I did notice that the ends of the branches of Domino (of drooping habit) were nibbled off. The tree, though, seems healthy enough.

Rampant brambles on the perimeter are making the orchard smaller. Hopefully, if our grant application for some serious equipment is successful, we might be able to cut the growth back to the original boundary. A job for a working party?

Peter Austerfield

DONNINGTON, near Ledbury, Herefordshire.

Following our slightly downbeat assessment a year ago, things seem to be turning out rather better than we had feared, in fact a few trees fruited so well in 2002 that their (still slender) frame-building branches needed to be relieved of their fruit: pollination, therefore, seems to have made a good start, and several of these trees appear set for a similar performance this year. Those whose fruits featured particularly were:- Stirling Castle, (the variety which, in 1990, brought a gleam to the eye of Ray Boddington in a greengrocer's shop in Hay-on-Wye and led to the Network's coming into being), May Queen, Kidd's Orange Red, Colonel Vaughan and....(wait for it) the Newtown Pippin or Petersburgh Pippin which originated on Long Island, New York, where our landowner of the site has spent some years of his life. Hogg, (Fruit Manual, 1884) records that Newtown Pippin was already being cultivated in the Brompton Park Nursery (London) by 1768, just a few years before King George III's tax revenue disappeared with its famous tea chests in Boston Harbour and someone soon after dreamt up some stars and stripes!

At any rate, mention of that little selection should start to tickle your salivary glands!

Conditions on site continue to feature hard clay, which means some waterlogging, alternating with drying out, so that the roots of small trees, over a season, can move from feast to famine and back again. My colleague, Tom Froggatt's mole-draining contractor came and did the job just as the Electricity Company, without prior warning to ourselves or the landowner, arrived on site to renew cabling which had remained untouched (we were told) since power was first brought to the area. This

meant heavy vehicles churning up the site, leaving deeper trenches at right-angles to the mole drains and part of the site beginning to look like a battlefield but the trees have survived and, in late Spring, John Aldridge replaced trees that had previously died and added several more. The new additions are:- Byford Wonder, Herefordshire Beefing, Lady's Finger of Shropshire and Onibury Pippin from Shropshire, Worcester Silk and Betty Geeson from Worcestershire and Golden Russet of New York from across the pond. We had suffered mechanical damage to one tree - Cornish Gilliflower - but John managed to energise a new leader which is fighting back strongly! All in all, an encouraging year on this site.

Ray Boddington

LOWER FFORDD-FAWR, near Hay-on-Wye, Breconshire.

The nine young trees already established at this site are doing well and two of the unknown varieties have fruited. This Spring we planted a further 37 varieties which were grafted by Paul Davis on bare-rooted M9 stocks. The grafts on 10 of these have not taken and will have to be done again next Spring but 8 of the rootstocks are growing well. Two have died. Another six grafts are making poor growth but are surviving. This is the first time we have tried this method and it has been a difficult year for new young trees on a rather stony site. However, the plot is very conveniently situated for maintenance and David Pryce Goodwin has done a fine job on fencing it, installing a gate and keeping it mown and watered. Who knows what may be there as we gradually identify the 'wait and see' varieties?

Sheila Leitch

HEREFORDSHIRE NATURE TRUST'S ORCHARD AT LOWER HOUSE, TUPSLEY

Herefordshire Nature Trust took up residence within the last decade at its present site overlooking the River Lugg, east of Hereford city and less than 5 miles from that river's confluence with the Wye and Frome. The Trust had previously been headquartered in city-centre accommodation near to the Cathedral in Hereford. A major restoration job, under English Heritage supervision, had to be carried out on the old farmhouse which has now become offices. It can only be fortuitous that, as a result of the move, the Nature Trust now overlooks the largest area of 'Lammas Meadow' in England. 'Lammas' is a contraction of 'loaf-mas' which, like the Tithe, was part of the system by which the 'Church' secured its income in olden times. 'Lammas' – the onset of harvest – is at the opposite pole to Candlemas in the Church's year. This ritual may not sound significant to us, but it did, in effect, regulate how land held in common in the Middle Ages was farmed: under such a regime, for half the year, the land would be grazed on a communal basis, but for the other half the land would be 'shut up' and owned on an individual strip basis, to allow the annual crop of hay to grow, which was fundamental to the feeding of the plough oxen which powered the agricultural economy.

The Lugg meadowland which, by virtue of regular flooding, was especially rich, remained in Church ownership until modern times. For the Herefordshire Nature Trust Dr Anthea Brian has produced a fascinating and beautifully illustrated account of how the landholding rights were parcelled out: her study forms part of a larger work which covers the wildlife and biodiversity of these meadows and their 'unimproved' grassland, published by Logaston Press at Almeley and sold through bookshops. Thanks to records accessible in the Cathedral and City Libraries in

Hereford, the landholdings can be traced right back to the Domesday Book which covered England shortly after the Norman Conquest: that they do not extend further back in time is due to the destruction of all such evidence in the year 1055, when Hereford was laid waste by the Welsh – hence all those castles! The meadowland is therefore of great importance and should be cherished because of its unique nature, in the same way as any number of historic buildings. Lively opposition, led by the Council for the Protection of Rural England, was encountered a few years ago when construction of a bypass adjacent to it was proposed. With changes in the balance of power in the local Council, this issue is liable to recur.

Having taken up residence on its new site, the Nature Trust decided that it would establish a collection of local apple and pear varieties, and turned to *MAN* for ideas. The collection includes a number of the apple varieties to be found at Berrington Hall National Trust, but is based upon M25 (Standard) rootstock rather than MM106 (Half-standard) which flourish in the old walled garden at Berrington, having been planted some years ago by N.C.C.P.G., Herefordshire. In the spirit of our recently published booklet, 'Apples of the Welsh Marches', the Nature Trust collection includes some varieties which have been widely grown in Herefordshire for some time, as well as those which have originated in the county or its immediate environs. Thus, Warner's King, Keswick Codlin, and the Catshead rub shoulders with Ten Commandments, Adam's Pearmain and Kings Acre Bountiful. The Black Pear of Worcester, of great antiquity, is prominent among the pears, along with the classic French Doyenne du Comice and a couple of plum trees. Over several years, John Aldridge has devoted his expertise to training the collection into configurations appropriate to their development. This collection of young trees is complemented by a useful collection of long-established standard trees planted by the previous owners, which *MAN* has been busy identifying.

Ray Boddington

APPLES AT UNITY GARDEN

Unity Garden is a Community Garden project in Hereford. It is on the old Council nursery site near the Texaco petrol station on Ledbury Road, on the same side of the road and is now signposted. Part of the site is leased from the Council.

They now have a small orchard of apple, pear, plum and walnut trees. The first planting last Winter was a perry pear, Brandy, planted by an enthusiastic group of children led by Fiona Mack. I obtained trees from different sources including some from *MAN* which were growing at the Widemarsh Workshop site.

Most of the apple trees are on MM106 rootstocks, although there are some on M9. There are a number of local varieties such as Maiden's Blush, together with more common varieties such as Egremont Russet and Worcester Pearmain. Although it is too soon to see much fruit, we do have a few of the pear Beurré Superfin, and fine examples of Stoke Edith Pippin and Duchess's Favourite apples.

The garden and café are open to the public on Fridays and Sundays from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Please drop in. There is also a fine display of other fruit including unusual tomatoes and beans.

Frank Hemming

NEWS FROM OTHER GROUPS

We continue to exchange Newsletters with other groups with similar aims to our own. A few extracts and items of interest are included below:-

CHESHIRE ORCHARD PROJECT

The Core of the Matter – Orchard Conference. The Cheshire Orchard Project is holding its 2nd conference at Tatton Park, Knutsford (home of the RHS Tatton) on Saturday, September 13th from 10.00am to 4.00pm. £15.00 per person – cost includes buffet lunch. The flier says "Come and learn more about the history of the apple. Guest speaker will be Prof. Barrie Juniper, who will talk about the far eastern origins of the apple." There will also be a guided walk around Tatton Park's recently renovated Kitchen Garden and contributions from orchard groups from around the UK, who have all been invited to give a brief talk on their organisation. Tom Froggatt will be giving an account of our activities. Tickets for this event need to have been booked in August from Cheshire Landscape Trust, so this Newsletter notification is too late for our members to attend. However, as this interesting conference is now an annual event, you may, early next year, like to seek advance information on next year's event:- Tel. 01244-376333.

Sheila Leitch

IRISH SEED SAVER ASSOCIATION

I always particularly enjoy reading the Members Newsletters of this group, as their search for Irish apples is very akin to what we are doing in Wales, where old local varieties which have never been described, illustrated or given English names, and are not represented in the Brogdale collection, are being sought. The most recent Summer Issue of the Newsletter includes a list of of the best ten Irish dessert apples from the collection at Capparoo, Scariff, in County Clare, put together as a result of being often asked about their favourite apples. As not all the trees have yet fruited, the list may change from year to year as more fruit is produced. The article, contributed by Doug Dudley, Orchard Manager, provides a detailed description of each of these varieties, some, such as *Irish Peach*, *Eight Square* and *Kerry Pippin*, known to us; others, such as *White Russet*, are unknown to us. This cultivar was first mentioned in a survey of County Derry in 1802 and found again by Dr.J.G.Lamb in the 1940s when he made his collection. Only recently it was recognised again after it was sent in by a member of the Armagh Orchards Trust. Doug says "the proof of this variety is in the eating! The flesh is white and juicy with an intense peach/pineapple flavour, which really increases after keeping for a week or two. The tree is vigorous, upright and spreading. The old tree seen last year is a constant heavy bearer and could be self-fertile as there are no other apples near it! As we have only just started propagating this variety it will take a few years before there are large amounts of stock." Sounds worth waiting for and this sort of find encourages us to keep looking for 'lost' Welsh fruits, including some from the list of mainly Glamorganshire apples given in the Cambrian Journal, 1858, Vol.III and many of the apples and pears described and illustrated in 'The Herefordshire Pomona'. The Newsletter also includes a book review of a biography of Rachel Carson, the author of Silent Spring. [See P.21 in our new 'Literary Corner'.]

Sheila Leitch

GLOUCESTERSHIRE ORCHARD GROUP

The Spring issue of their Newsletter records that the group has grown to over 80 members. It has a detailed article on Orchards and Countryside Stewardship, explaining the value of a management plan for an orchard and also includes a spotlight on a variety which, in this issue, covers an apple, a perry pear and a plum, all thought to have local connections. The group hold orchard pruning, budding and grafting workshop days throughout the year, in conjunction with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers.

Sheila Leitch

NORTHERN FRUIT GROUP

Development of the computer based identification key "APPLEKEY"

This is proceeding steadily. The main problem is now to make it "user friendly" for the non-expert. At present only its designer (i.e. me!) can use it effectively! To this end APPLEKEY is being adapted for use with an Australian taxonomic key called "LUCID". LUCID is much friendlier because text and pictures to enhance the basic identification characters can be incorporated easily. However it is unfortunately much slower than APPLEKEY, which is not helpful given the rapidity of response needed at busy Apple Days!

Most "likely to be encountered" early apples are now included and I intend to incorporate more of the later ones this autumn.

The first "user friendly" version of "APPLEKEY/LUCID", hopefully available this Autumn, will be the Rosanne Sanders and/or Bultitude subsets of the full APPLEKEY list.

I have also just acquired a French key for apples and pears on a nicely presented CD. I have not tried it yet but I believe it is fairly comprehensive.

1. Orchard conservation and planting activities

In the North West Hilary Wilson, Philip Rainford and others are indefatigable in their pursuit of "old/heritage" orchards and have found a number of local varieties still surviving. Awards have been received from Lancashire County Council and other bodies for renovating "Heritage" orchards and for planting new ones.

Elsewhere in the North, *NFG* is involved in advisory and practical capacities in a number of orchards including the Cannon Hall Pear Collection, The Yorkshire Sculpture Park, the Helmsley Walled Garden project and several National Trust properties. An exciting recent development is the decision by Leeds City Council to create a four hectare orchard involving several hundred trees, on an ideal site at Lotherton Hall between Leeds and Tadcaster. *NFG* is providing the technical help/advice on the fruit side. The emphasis will be on North Country varieties and this orchard will form one of the largest if not the largest collection of this kind in the North of England.

2. Showing activities We have had a successful year (2003) so far with a "gold" at the Great Yorkshire Show in July and a "second" at the Leeds Flower Show in

August. As usual there have been many technical enquiries and a steady trickle of new members as a result of our presence at these shows.

3. Workshops

Our grafting, budding and pruning workshops continue to be much in demand and several have been over subscribed.

4. RHS/Northern Horticultural Society merger

With the new resources available as a result of the merger, the gardens are being improved steadily and as an affiliated "Specialist Group" we are involved in the establishment of an assemblage of top fruit at Harlow Carr, which will be in addition to the "model fruit garden" we maintain there.

5. Apple Days

Last year's *NFG* one at Harlow Carr was a well organised and successful affair. There still seems to be a "limitless" source of apples needing identification in our catchment area! The event now takes place over two days and the collection of several hundred varieties assembled for it, is left on display for 4-5 days after the event, for people to examine at their leisure. We also help in similar events on both sides of the Pennines.

6. Orchard and Variety Surveys and Recording

Despite the disappointment of our unsuccessful HLF bid to carry out a comprehensive survey of Yorkshire's orchards, we are still very much aware of the wealth of information on orchards and varieties that is going "by default". We are actively considering how to carry out a survey using our own resources albeit not as comprehensive a one as the Lottery one would have been. We think that something on the lines of the successful Botanical Society of the British Isles and Plantlife survey of Geraniums and the current "Bluebell" survey may show "the way forward".

Meanwhile we are taking advantage of information obtained from the responses to our "Millennium Survey" in which questionnaires were distributed at the York Apple meeting a few years ago. Using the information, we have selected the orchards that we think are the most interesting as "Orchard Ecosystems" and/or as likely sources of old varieties. We will be visiting them this autumn to assess them and to identify the varieties present and we expect to "pick up" a number of lost or near lost varieties.

We all know that visits to orchards to identify the varieties present or to assess the "worth" of the orchard, can result in an open-ended commitment to give advice. To keep tabs on the orchards *NFG* is involved in various ways, we now record the details of our involvement on a database so that we can easily see what is happening and, in particular, see which of our members are overloaded with too many "clients". The database also enables us to "marry" the most suitable expert to a particular enquiry.

We realised when developing the HLF application that the main bottleneck in the survey, i.e. the most time consuming part, was going to be the identification of varieties. Even without the "imperatives" of a survey, identification remains a

problem with us and, I suspect, with all groups, this is particularly so at Apple Days when time is limited. The Ernest Oddys and Joan Morgans of this world are few and far between and grossly over taxed each autumn. We are trying to remedy this in the case of Ernest Oddy particularly as people are mortal, by encouraging a group of people to take up the challenge of learning their apples and even their pears!

My key is now helpful, at the very least in producing a shortlist of probables for an unknown. The best "user friendly" version hopefully available this autumn should be of considerable help.

All involved in identification know how useful illustrations are in confirming identification. More especially, how much more useful are high quality drawings/paintings such as those of Rosanne Sanders than are most of the photographs in print. This is presumably because the artist is able to emphasise the characteristic features. The illustrations of 'The Herefordshire Pomona' are good examples of such paintings. The RHS Lindley Library has a good collection of French, Belgian, German, Dutch etc, Pomonas of this kind. I am "scraping around" to see if there is enough interest in getting an assemblage drawn from these Pomonas, reproduced as a tool for identification. One publisher/producer will do the work very well but they need evidence of sales/sponsorship. With suitable sponsorship, they reckon a price of around £25 per copy would be realistic depending of course on the number of plates involved etc. I would be grateful for MAN's view of the desirability or otherwise of pursuing this venture further.

Simon Clark

STAFFORDSHIRE ORCHARD INITIATIVE

This recently formed group can be contacted at the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, The Wolseley Centre, Wolseley Bridge, Stafford, ST17 OWT or phone Mike Deegan, Tel. 01889-880100.

THE BLUE REMEMBERED HILLS PROJECT

An orchard inventory is being undertaken this year in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). A useful Orchard Record Sheet is provided to volunteers prepared to carry out some survey work. This Shropshire-based project can offer advice and grant aid for caring for and celebrating local landscape in the AONB. The information leaflet includes the heading ORCHARDS, under which it says "Snell's Glass and Pig's Snout apples were once commonplace. Orchards used to be part of the local landscape and culture, some with their own special varieties of fruit, some with their own customs and others with their own recipes. We will work with communities and orchard owners to identify remaining orchards and restore, replant and return some of them to productivity. We will offer guidance and grant where needed". John Tucker, Wildlife Sites Officer, is responsible for Wildlife Sites and Orchards and can be contacted by Tel:- 01588 674092. Email: john.tucker@shropshire-cc.gov.uk

NATIONAL ORCHARD FORUM

This recently organised forum is open to both groups, (£15 per annum) and individuals (£5). MAN has joined and one of our members, Ann Smith, is Newsletter Editor of NOF as well as being Secretary/Editor of the Gloucester Orchard Group!

The second Newsletter, Summer 2003, has just arrived and is a very nicely produced and interesting read. Ann says, in her Editorial "We are delighted to hear positive comments that the National Orchard Forum is already providing an exchange of information between local groups and individuals throughout the UK. We can all learn from each other and share our expertise and experience. No two groups will be the same, yet we all work towards the common goals of conserving, promoting and celebrating traditional varieties of tree fruits, many of which have been threatened over the last half century". An article on organic fruit production and research at the Henry Doubleday Research Association, from a talk presented at the 2002 HDRA AGM by Stella Knight and Chris Firth, is particularly interesting to those of us who are members of HDRA or attempting to practice organic methods of pest and disease control. A Stop Press announces the new NOF website which is <http://www.nat-orchard-forum.org.uk>

Sheila Leitch

CRIME AND APPLES

It is always nice to be acknowledged for something and see one's name in print. And so it was recently when I was thanked for my 'knowledge of old varieties of apples'. I had, in fact, given the author of a recently published book some details about old varieties, particularly those from Herefordshire, the county in which the story is set.

Gillian Linscott's 'The Garden' is a detour from her usual crime fiction series, which feature a suffragette sleuth called Nell Bray, and it chronicles the lives of two families, one wealthy mine owners living in Herefordshire, the other pit workers from across the border in Wales. Both families are inextricably linked to 'The Garden' of Holders Hope, destined to be one of the great gardens of the Edwardian age, which holds a secret that will take nearly a century to solve. This is the crime that is woven into the story with the skill only a crime writer possesses. The author did, in fact, win the prestigious Historical dagger from the Crime Writers Association in 2000.

The book took three years to research and the description of the Herefordshire countryside, the western fringes of the Golden Valley, and the creation of the Edwardian garden are detailed. Built from scratch, by mine workers who no longer worked underground, it gradually takes shape as a series of gardens within a garden, all under the watchful eye of the creator, Philip Cordell, who is not, however, the owner. Already the plot thickens.

The garden includes an area designed to be a 'Pleasance' or 'Pleasaunce' which usually means a pleasure ground attached to a large house. Within this is the orchard of local apples. I am sure I have seen a Pleasance Road somewhere in Herefordshire but I cannot remember where and indeed the OED adds that the name sometimes survives as the name of a street or place.

I read little crime fiction but I found 'The Garden' kept me interested in the plot, the lives of the families involved and, of course, the details of the countryside and the creation of a substantial garden. All this moves to and fro between 1907 and 2001 as the secret is gradually revealed. The author has certainly done her work on

the background into which she has woven the necessary crime (and its eventual solution) as the genre dictates.

Gillian Linscott, 'The Garden', published by Allison and Busby, 2002.

Peter Austerfield

CIDER APPLE AND PERRY PEAR SUBGROUP

The Group formed at the last AGM has made a start on gathering information on the old varieties. 20 of the 46 cider varieties listed in 'The Herefordshire Pomona' are currently known to be growing in various orchards in the county. The continuing task is to discover if any positively identifiable examples of the other 26 exist. A list was sent out to those members who signed up to the Group at the AGM. In addition, it is vital to find as many as possible of the varieties introduced subsequent to the publication of the Pomona

To start propagating and re-establishing the old varieties it is necessary to confirm which ones are rare. Obviously it is not necessary to propagate the varieties commonly found in all the commercial orchards. By creating a register of the location of identified trees it may be possible to re-identify the unknown trees by cross-reference and comparison. The demise of Bulmers as an independent company led to the sale of Field Farm and the 'Mother' orchard, which contained many of the lesser-known varieties and was useful for comparison purposes. It is understood that the grafts taken from all the less common trees in these orchards have been successful. However until these trees mature and produce fruit they will not be any use for comparison purposes. Therefore it is up to us to get going on the detective work.

Many of the orchards across the region were planted at the turn of the century and further extensive planting was done in the years after the first World War. The identity of individual trees planted during this period have, in many cases, become lost. An article in the Hereford Times entitled "Cider Sleuths" attracted interest across the region from owners of cider apple and Perry pear orchards who claimed to have very old trees. Unfortunately they all wanted their trees identified! Not much help to us in the short term but it is intended that all will be visited during the harvest season to see whether any of these trees are worth propagating with a view to future identification.

There are several ways of identifying unknown trees the obvious one is the memory of an older generation still alive who may no longer own the particular orchard but knows what is in it. Sale documents sometimes include an orchard-planting plan. The County Record offices may hold copies. In a few cases the types of trees in an orchard may be listed in the Deeds.

If you have known cider or pear varieties in your orchard we would like to hear from you in order to get the register properly started. If you also have unknown varieties we would also be interested but require a brief description which should include the following details:

Tree size, shape and growth characteristics (upright, spreading, drooping.)
Fruit maturing season.
Colouring, shape and size of apple.
Taste of fruit (e.g. sweet, bitter sweet, mild sharp, etc.)

The details required to produce the register are as follows:

1. Orchard owner:
2. Address and telephone contact number
3. Known tree varieties in orchard (Must be positively identified)

(Send to) Richard Cheshire
Apple Mead,
Kinnersley
Hereford.
HR3 6QB

CIDERMAKING FESTIVAL

To celebrate Apple Day, the Cider Museum in Hereford holds an annual Cidermaking Festival which this year will take place on Saturday and Sunday, 18th & 19th October. Refreshments are available and our shop offers a wide range of books about apples, plus gifts and apple-themed kitchen ware.

Normal Museum entrance charges apply (£2.70 adults, £2.20 OAPs, Children & students, with special rates for parties of 15 or more) - Contact the Cider Museum for more details, Tel. 01432-354207. [See Events on P.31]

Margaret Thomson
Museum Director

BRITISH BEEKEEPERS NATIONAL SPRING CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION

After a two hour journey I arrived at Stoneleigh at 8.00am to find a queue of visitors already building up. Beekeeper and *MAN* member David Barker, from Birmingham, was on hand to assist setting up our stand, once we had found it. The number was different from that in the programme. - these things are sent to try!!! Our smart Marler Hayley display panels were erected, books and leaflets set out and about 18 blossoms, stuck in oases and in various stages of maturity, attracted pleasing comments. and several photographs.

David and I were kept fairly busy answering questions, not all pomological, and sold over £130 worth of books. One visitor was disappointed that Hogg did not contain rhubarb. He had travelled from Tyneside and was a member of a group which had acquired the use of an old walled garden and wished to re-create a garden as it would have been prior to 1875. My only suggestion was to contact the Northern Fruit Group.

Next year the event will be on April 24th and if any bee-keeping *MAN* members would like to help on the stall for an hour or two, we could have a look at other exhibitors - some from Ireland, France, Germany and Denmark as well as two halls full from the UK. Please contact me on 01584-831650 or write to Ashford Mill, Ludlow SY8 4BT.

Tom Froggatt

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS

Most of the apple identification requests which come in to us are to satisfy the owner's curiosity but sometimes there is an urgent need to know for other reasons. Last year, when we were at the Malvern Autumn Show, one of our members arrived with a dauntingly large box of apple specimens, and has kindly written to let us know the outcome. With his permission, the letter is appended.

Julian Brandram,
Fruit Specialist,
145, Upper Valley Road,
Sheffield S8 9HD

1st July

Dear Sheila,

Here is a brief report about the orchard that you helped to identify apples for, sorry its late, I've been away. I was asked by Swadlincote District Council to give advice about an old orchard at Newhall – a nearby village. The orchard had a small housing estate built alongside it and was threatened with further development. The Council had placed a Tree Preservation Order on the whole site, an application for outline planning permission had been turned down. It then went to appeal and I was asked to support the case against this. An environmental consultant had been employed by the owner of the orchard.

I visited the orchard in September 2002, by local standards it was very large and had originally contained in excess of 80 trees. It consisted entirely of apple trees, with a fair amount of canker, but still cropping well. I was able to identify some varieties and took samples which I left with MAN for further identification. There were about 11 different apples, with a lot of Allington Pippin and Bramleys, plus one Beeley Pippin. This is a local apple and I have never previously found one in Derbyshire. I submitted a report to the Council and later gave evidence at the Planning Enquiry held in March 2003. There was a good turnout of local people opposing the development and the application was turned down. An excellent result!

Julian

News of Sarah's Orchard at Dursley, Glos.

The Apple Factor,
Old apple varieties, trees and fruit.

S.B. Juniper,
109, Woodmancote,
Dursley,
Gloucester,
GL114AH.

The orchard is beginning to look reasonable this year. I've finally had that ash tree down which was threatening to fall on newly planted apples (if I'd dared to plant under it). The rogue got away with taking all the ash wood, something I hadn't bargained for.

I've had some losses: one of the Lady's Fingers, mown through by the errant contractors with their 'weed-whackers', gave up the ghost even though I thought I'd saved it by reburying it below the damage as it was showing air roots from burrs above the cuts. The other trees damaged by rabbits I ingrafted quite successfully. There are some photos on the website. I lost RubINETTE due to my failure to check tree ties before a gale ripped it off its stake and snapped it at the base. Moral: car inner tubes make lovely ties but only last 2 years.

This year I hope to get a crop on about a third of the trees. Time to make overtures to Farmers Markets. Time also maybe to purchase a four wheeled contraption as a motorbike doesn't make a good van!

The investment of a power scythe has been worth it. I've got the time down in mowing one hilly acre to 6 and a half hours. (It was taking those lazy contractors 2 days and 2 men to do it – hah!)

I've added an apple section to my website where you can view the nonsense I get up to:

It's www.sarahjuniper.co.uk (should be up soon)

It's a funny thing that when you can think you are planning an orchard and dealing in apples, you find you are actually dealing with grass!

Have a good Autumn, Sarah Juniper

APPLE OF THE MONTH

As part of our updates to the website, we thought it would be of interest to feature an 'apple of the month', with committee members, or anyone else so inclined, writing up details of a seasonal apple. Something to watch out for amongst you web-watchers.

Sheila Leitch

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

I enjoyed meeting our member, Renée Morris Young, who kindly drove Fred Essex-Clegg down from the Midlands to my house for both the January and the July pruning courses and, at the end of both sessions, she and Fred and I settled down in the kitchen for a long chat, covering a wide range of interesting topics. She had brought a lovely cider cake to add to the selection provided for the course members and promised to send the recipe which she had acquired years before from a day at Staunton Park. I also asked for a translation she had quoted from Martin Luther. Not only did she send these for this Newsletter but also the poem below, which I thought others might enjoy reading as much as I did. In earlier Newsletters we have sometimes included a few recipes, and Elizabeth Rowe sent a literary contribution for Number 7, but Renée's contributions to the Newsletter have prompted me to include two new 'Corners', so perhaps we can have more recipes or apple-themed poems or quotes next time. Please let us know at the AGM or by phone or letter what you would like to read in what is **YOUR** Newsletter. Each year I fear there will only be a very slim one as deadlines come and go, but then some pleasant surprises arrive and fill it out.

Sheila Leitch

LITERARY CORNER

After Apple Picking

My long two-pointed ladder's sticking through a tree
Toward heaven still,
And there's a barrel that I didn't fill
Beside it, and there may be two or three
Apples I didn't pick upon some bough.
But I am done with apple picking now.
Essence of winter sleep is on the night,
The scent of apples: I am drowsing off.
I cannot rub the strangeness from my sight
I got from looking through a pane of glass
I skimmed this morning from the drinking trough
And held against this world of hoary grass.
It melted, and I let it fall and break.
But I was well
Upon my way to sleep before it fell
And I could tell what form my dreaming was about to take.
Magnified apples appear and disappear,
Stem end and blossom end,
And every fleck of russet showing clear.
My instep arch not only keeps the ache,
It keeps the pressure of a ladder-round.
I feel the ladder sway as the boughs bend.
And I keep hearing from the cellar bin
The rumbling sound
Of load on load of apples coming in.
For I have had too much
Of apple-picking: I am overtired
Of the great harvest I myself desired.
There were ten thousand fruit to touch,
Cherish in hand, lift down and not let fall.
For all
That struck the earth,
No matter if not bruised or spiked with stubble,
Went surely to the cider-apple heap
As of no worth.
One can see what will trouble
This sleep of mine, whatever sleep it is.
Were he not gone,
The woodchuck could say whether it's like his
Long sleep, as I describe it coming on,
Or just some human sleep.

Robert Frost(1874-1963)

“Und wenn ich auch wusste, dass morgen die Welt unterginge, so wurde ich doch heute mein Apfelbaumchen pflanzen.”

Translates as:

“And even if I knew that tomorrow the world would end, I would still plant my little apple tree.”

Martin Luther (1483-1546),
Theologian, translator of the Bible into German, reformer, “the founder of Protestant civilization”

Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. There is symbolic as well as actual beauty in the migration of the birds, the ebb and flow of the tides, the folded bud ready for spring. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature – the assurance that dawn comes after night and spring after winter.

Rachel Carson

Book Reviews

We would like you to send in reviews of any books which you think members would like to know of or to read.

I mention two here, very briefly. Simon Clark of the Northern Fruit Group has found in his Leeds Library a copy of an expensive book – ‘APPLES’- which he says is a very comprehensive compendium with sections on Botany, Production and Uses. Published in 2003, £98 by CABI Publishing, CAB International, Wallingford, Oxon. OX10 8DR.

The other is reviewed in the Irish Seedsaver Association Members Newsletter and should appeal to the organic growers and conservationists who, I believe, form a large proportion of our membership. It is ‘Rachel Carson – Witness for Nature’. Linda Lear. Penguin Press 1997. The review ends with Rachel Carson's own words which the reviewer thinks may explain where she drew her determination from to expose the dangers of the widespread use of pesticides and herbicides in the 1950s, in particular the effect of DDT on the genetic fabric of all nature. These words are quoted above.

Sheila Leitch

IDENTIFICATIONS

May we again remind members who wish to have apples identified that we require some information on season (early, mid or late), whether eater or cooker, approximate age of tree, under/over 50 years, and the address. We ask for three typical specimens of a variety, which must be in good condition. Identification sessions involve our ‘team’ members travelling up to 50 miles to gather round the table, so a charge of £1 per variety is made to members and £3 to Non members.

Sheila Leitch

COOKERY CORNER

Cider Bread

4 oz cherries	5 oz brown sugar
4 oz currants	1 egg beaten
4 oz raisins	6 oz plain flour
4 oz sultanas	1 oz cornflour
½ pint cider	2 level tsps baking powder

Method:

Soak fruit in cider overnight.
Add sugar and egg to fruit mixture and stir well.
Sieve flour, cornflour and baking powder and fold into mixture.
Turn into a greased 2 lb loaf tin.
Cook in moderate oven 325° for 2 hours.

Keep for a few days wrapped in foil.
Serve sliced and buttered.
As served in Elizabeth's tea room, Staunton Park, Herefordshire.

SALE OF GRAFTWOOD AND BUDWOOD

MAN will continue this service of supplying propagation material. As stated in earlier Newsletters, in order to make the collection of material reasonably convenient and economical, there will have to be cut-off dates for receipt of orders. Those for graftwood have to be in by 10th January, to Mike Porter, Tel: 01874-730354, and budwood by 10th July to John Aldridge, Tel. 01432-820304. Sheila Leitch and John Aldridge will have lists of varieties grown within the Network. Prices per stick (10-12") to members, £1.25 (non-members, £2.50). Postage at cost, minimum £2.00. The scheme is geared to personal, not commercial, quantities.

John Aldridge

LIGHT RELIEF

Overheard at Talgarth Black Mountains Festival. Tom Froggatt calling to an elderly passer-by in the cattle market where we had our *MAN* display "Try an apple". Replied the gent, "Somebody's stolen my teeth". I looked up at him, wondering if I had heard aright, and he added "I'm eating lots of eggs. You can't help me". And off he went, with a toothless grin! It brightened our afternoon considerably.

Sheila Leitch

THE PRUNING COURSES

The three Winter pruning courses, subsidised by Herefordshire Council, went well, and made enough to support the unsubsidised Summer pruning course held in July, outside the financial year for the subsidy. If there is support for further ones at the AGM, we will endeavour to repeat the courses, again using Paul Davis and Fred Clegg as instructors. Grateful thanks are extended to both for their hard work and enthusiasm.

Sheila Leitch

Single variety organic apple juices
from rare and unusual varieties

Tastes range from very sharp to very sweet

For further details contact:

Mr & Mrs Gardiner
Gellirhyd Farm
Llangenny
Crickhowell
Powys
NP8 1HF

email: daphnegardiner@gellirhydfarm.co.uk

Fruit trees

Welsh, rare Border county and traditional disease-resistant varieties

Paul Davis
Dolau-hirion Fruit Tree Nursery,
Capel Isaac,
Llandeilo SA19 7TG

(near Aberglasney and the National Botanic Gardens)

Tel: 01558 668744
applewise@tiscali.co.uk

Prices from £7.50

ORCHARDS - AN ORAL HISTORY

Tim Coupland of Field of Vision - designers specialising in multimedia interpretation for environmental, heritage, and community projects - was pleased to have been invited to attend the July committee meeting of *MAN* to outline an exciting new project proposal.

The project 'Orchards - an Oral History' is in the early stages of development and intends to focus on aspects of apple and pear growing through the eyes of those who have lived and work with them. Drawing out the issues surrounding conservation of older varieties, it will also cover the environmental benefits of traditionally maintained orchards. Initially the project was to be based in Herefordshire but discussion with *MAN* committee members indicated that a broader catchment area such as the main counties covered by *MAN* would create a better project.

Interviews will be recorded on video tape and edited along with support material such as old photographs and film taken at important places. Delivering the material on DVD would create an opportunity to link in additional material such as interactive maps or complete projects such as a set of instructional videos on cultivation techniques such as pruning, grafting and budding.

It is likely that the project will concentrate on recent history, but the tales will also inevitably incorporate fascinating details of social history as well as economic and environmental changes over the centuries. Covering local history and 'comparing and contrasting' methods or practices of cultivation in different areas would meet targets of the national school curriculum and ensure wide usage of the material across many sectors: education; horticulture; heritage; and leisure.

Rachel Sharp - BAP (Biodiversity Action Plan) partnership Officer for Herefordshire - is very keen that the project is taken forward, and partnership is being sought with other interested groups, however the involvement of *MAN* would be key to the success of such a venture.

We would be grateful to be made aware of any similar projects, either completed or in development stages, that might contribute to 'Orchards - an Oral History' as a resource or possibly that the project could usefully link with. Additionally we would be very interested to hear of any source material or useful contacts.

Please contact us through Tim Coupland - telephone 01568-760545.

FRUIT TREE KITS

There is a new leaflet for 2003, giving information on Fruit Tree Kits available for planting on sites within the county of Herefordshire, for applicants not receiving financial support from any other grant aid initiative. Leaflets, which include application forms, are obtainable from Parks & Countryside Service, PO BOX 41, Leominster HR6 OZA. Tel/Fax 01568-797305.

Some of the fruit varieties traditionally grown in the orchards and gardens of the county are available and each tree/kit costs £8.50. Only a limited number of trees

are available, so order early to avoid disappointment. Closing date for applications is 14th November and tree kits must be collected the weekend 29/30th Nov. from Queenswood Country Park, Dinmore Hill. There are Orchards Kits, with a choice of six apple varieties for orchards, budded onto vigorous M25 rootstocks, together with Special Fruit Varieties – a dessert pear and a dessert/culinary apricot, the latter two only suitable for large walled gardens or orchards. Garden Kits offer four apple varieties budded onto M26 semi-dwarfing rootstocks.

MAN LIBRARY ADDITIONS

We have recently acquired two very useful aids to our identification sessions in the form of facsimile editions of classic works. (Tom Froggatt has a few copies of Hogg for sale.)

The Fruit Manual 1884. Robert Hogg. Facsimile edition of the 1884 edition. Langford Press.

National Apple Register of the United Kingdom. M.W.G. Smith. Facsimile of the 1971 edition. Langford Press.

Our Partnership with Nature: A Local Biodiversity Plan for Powys September 2002. Powys Wildlife Trusts. The Countryside Council for Wales. (Kindly donated by Mike Porter.)

Perry Pears. Edited by L.C. Luckwill & A. Pollard. Published for the National Fruit and Cider Institute by the University of Bristol, 1963.

We were fortunate to hear of a large collection of fruitbooks coming up for sale and Tom Froggatt was able to purchase a number of them after a valuation had been made. These make a very interesting addition to our library but are too numerous to list here.

A list of the full contents of *MAN's* library will be available soon for a second class stamp and a SAE. The books can be consulted by arrangement at Wye View, or at an event, or some can be borrowed for short periods by members living locally, who are able to return them in person. The updated list will also be on our website.

HELP WANTED

In the Spring News Sheet we asked for help with designing a logo and with occasional minute taking at Committee meetings either in Glasbury or near Hereford. We had some ideas for a logo from Muriel Beck in St Mellon's and now have a professionally designed one on our new headed notepaper and 'With Compliments' slips. No response at all as yet for minute taking. Again, a plea goes out. We could also do with additional help on some of our orchard visits. The identification team is concentrating on the fruit and it would be very helpful to have someone drawing a rough sketch of the layout of the trees and/or taking photos where necessary. Orchard visits need a reasonable weather forecast, but if you would particularly like to come on one and perhaps help with photography or drawing a simple plan, let me know by phone or at the AGM and I will phone you if a visit in your area is planned. We also need more learners coming to join the

identification sessions, to help them build up the necessary skills. Phone me on 01497-847354 if you would like to join us at a session at Wye View.

Sheila Leitch

WANTED APPLES

Although *MAN* is regularly occupied in identifying, propagating and exhibiting apple varieties of whose existence most people are unaware, there are still many which seem to have disappeared, although their names crop up in the earlier literature. If only we could find them. The varietal degeneration belief of Thomas Andrew Knight, though long since disproved, must have acted as a powerful disincentive to Victorian growers to look after their old specimens, so that conservation of such varieties would tend to operate by neglect, while the innovators in the trade kept the public mind occupied with new, e.g. Laxton, varieties. *MAN* would like to happen across more of those listed in 'The Herefordshire Pomona', which seem to have vanished.

What about the Goose Apple listed by Hogg? A Herefordshire cooking apple "in use till Christmas"; not very large, conical with a narrow ribbed apex: smooth, grass-green skin, brownish cheek, mottled with darker red. Not easy to distinguish from others, but it may be out there somewhere. We thought we had it at Berrington, but the trees turned out to be Warner's King. Then there was Queen of Sauce, illustrated in the Pomona, considered by Hogg to be "a culinary apple of first-rate quality, and suitable also for the dessert": extensively grown in Herefordshire, season November-January: large but narrowing, flushed with red and broken stripes of deeper red, greenish-yellow on the shaded side with patches of russet spread around. Also the College Apple which appears in the Pomona on the same page as the beefings, so called because it grew on an estate belonging to the Cathedral's choral vicars. A culinary apple, in use till December and, in its heyday, competing with Blenheims in the Manchester market, so there must have been quite a few around: medium-size, pearmain-shaped, not unlike Adams's Pearmain: skin smooth and shining, streaked all over with crimson stripes on a yellow ground says Hogg, with patches of brown russet on the base.

Finally we mention Cranston's (Kings Acre Nurseries, now Wyevale of course) Plum Apple: long, oval like a large egg plum, even and symmetrical, brownish-red to reddish-orange, stalk obliquely inserted at right-angles to the fruit's axis. Enquiries made at Wyevale, I fear, are likely to be unproductive, so don't be disappointed!

Ray Boddington

MORE WANTED APPLES

I have now heard from two different sources of an apple known as Greasy Betty, original trees now gone. Has anyone come across it in the Marches area? Can you ask around at your W.I. and in your Parish magazines etc? It would be interesting to compare it with Greasy Pippin, listed in The Irish Seedsaver Association's Native Irish Apple Catalogue, where it is described as a "dessert, Oct-Nov., with creamy white flesh, firm, crisp, moderately juicy, sweet and of good flavour. Medium-sized fruit, round, flat and angular. Golden yellow skin with russet dots and slight russet veining usually confined to one side of the fruit. When ripe the skin is greasy to a

remarkable degree. No scab or canker noted. Once common in Counties Fermanagh and Donegal.

I have also had a phone call from a member of the Northern Fruit Group, Phil Rainford. He is building up a collection of Lancashire apples at Myerscough College, north of Preston. He has a list of 20 missing varieties but is seeking three in particular at present, which he hopes may still be around as they were mentioned in H.V. Taylor's 'The Apples of England', first published in 1936. With our widespread membership and interest in such lost varieties, I said I would give them a mention. They are Archimedes, said to be similar to Warner's King, Lady Pilkington, resembling Dumelow's Seedling and Livsey's Codlin, a dessert apple, which is unusual for a codlin. Any knowledge of these cultivars or recollections of them, please let me know and I will put you in touch with Phil Rainford.

Sheila Leitch

MAN'S WEBSITE – ONE YEAR ON

It is now just over a year since MAN set up its website – I know as the fees for hosting the site and our domain name – www.marcherapple.net – have just come up for payment. So what, you may ask, has been happening over the last year? The answer is "Quite a lot, and with more to come".

What is on the Website?

If you have internet access then take a look at www.marcherapple.net. If you do not yourself have internet access then this is readily available in libraries (for which there may be a small fee). Also, in Herefordshire at least, free internet access is available at the Council's Information Centres. MAN's website is something of a library. Part of the website is like a notice board. Information comes and goes relatively quickly. These parts of the website tend to be related to events – in fact the website is the best place to look for the latest details of apple and pear events. Seeing "stale" information is off-putting for frequent visitors to a website so it is just as important to remove "stale" information as it is to add new information. This is why I update the website about once a month – and more frequently if needed for "breaking news". Another part of the website is like a reference library. Here information can change but does so less frequently. A list of nurseries selling traditional varieties does not change much, neither does a list of orchards open to the public. (And both of these lists are on the MAN website). Finally there is the general section where various articles of interest are held. This is not actually a large section of the MAN website. One reason is that there is the deliberate policy that the website will not supplant the annual newsletter. Some articles from back issues may be transferred to the website in due course but nothing will be published on the website before it appears in the newsletter.

What use is being made of the Website?

The level of use of the website started off at a very low level. I can check activity on the website and up to Christmas last year there were frequently days when nobody visited the website. It was a long, long time before the website could be found by the search engine Google. That problem is now in the past although it would still be a great help if other websites linked to MAN's website. Helped by Google and publicity in newspaper articles the frequency of visits has been slowly increasing but

we are a long way off being one of the top ten sites on the web. The *MAN* website has been directly responsible for a small number of membership applications and a small number of purchases of last year's newsletter and the book "Apples of the Welsh Marches". We know precisely about these as the membership/ purchase forms are obtained from the website. Finding out about other use relies on anecdotal evidence. One of the attendees on a *MAN* pruning course last winter had learnt of the course from the website. Another member has thanked me for the list of recommended books and the links to amazon.co.uk making purchasing easy. (Purchasing books this way should earn *MAN* a commission. If you do buy books from Amazon please let me know so I can check the commission statement).

Has the Website Developed over the Year?

A lot of work has gone on "under the bonnet" to make the website generally accessible. This has meant conforming to various published standards. (These are the reasonable steps that *MAN* must take under the Disability Discrimination Act to ensure that people with disabilities are not at a disadvantage when trying to use the website). There have been frequent changes, typically monthly, to add new information and to ensure that existing information is up-to-date. (The website contains a log of all the changes). And I keep adding small pictures to brighten up the pages whilst trying to ensure that each page loads very quickly.

Are There Plans for the Future?

Maybe not specific plans but the intention is to continue to develop *MAN's* website. What happens will depend on the time available to gather various bits of information and then make the necessary changes. Here are some of the ideas which are in the melting pot...

- Changes will continue to be made about once a month. These tend to be small changes but do keep things like the Events Diary up-to-date.
- *MAN* now has several orchards. One reason for establishing these orchards is so that graftwood of known provenance can be obtained for the rarer, traditional varieties of apples and pears. Details of the graftwood scheme and a list of the apple and pear varieties in *MAN's* orchards should be included in the website.
- Neither the Pomona nor the Cider Apple projects currently have pages on the website...
- *MAN* is happy to host pages for related groups who want a small presence on the internet but do not want all the bother of setting up their own website. Contact me if you are interested in taking up this offer.
- There is nothing about pruning on the website.
- There is currently nothing on the *MAN* website to help with the identification of apples and pears. Setting up a good identification toolkit is a major project and is likely to take several years. At the moment we are exploring setting up descriptions of individual varieties and there has also been some talk of targeting perry pears. There are sufficient varieties of perry pears to show the complexities of identification on the web whilst there are sufficiently few varieties to make the task manageable (hopefully).
- I am wanting to set up an "Apple Selector" – you decide what characteristics you want for your apples such as cooker/ eater; cropping early/ midseason/ late; disease tolerance; etc and the Apple Selector *an* gives you a list of

traditional varieties which meet your requirements. A prototype system was demonstrated at the Weobley AGM and I want to include this within the *MAN* website once I get the time.

- The National Grid for Learning say there is nothing "educational" on the website. By inclusion of "educational" material *MAN*'s website could be included in the NGfL list of approved sites. This would be quite a cachet for *MAN* as stringent criteria are applied before approval is given. Educational information need not just be student worksheets (say on practical biochemistry as applied to apples and "pears") but could also cover information for governors (say on choice of variety for specimen apple and pear trees, planting guidelines, after care etc.).

Can You Help?

Of course you can! Here are some suggestions...

- If you have any influence with another website ask their webmaster to set up a link to the *MAN* website. The *MAN* website has an extensive links page to other regional and national websites with related interests and I am always happy to add a reciprocal link.
- If you have information which can be included in the website – particularly on events, courses, grants and orchards open for visiting – please let me know. There is some bias towards Herefordshire in the website content because information from Herefordshire comes to me fairly readily.
- Do you think that some of the website is poorly written or incorrect? Why not rewrite those parts you think can be improved - I wrote the page on Orchards to Visit and it really is a bit of a mess.
- Help on any of the items listed above under Future Plans would be most welcome.

For any suggestions, requests, questions, complaints or praise about *MAN*'s website please feel free to contact me –

Richard Wheeler
MAN Webmaster
webmaster@marcherapple.net

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, 30th August. Wild Celebration - Family Fun Day at Herefordshire Nature Trust, Lower House Farm, Ledbury Road, Tupsley. From 1.00pm - 5.00pm. Wildlife demonstrations, farmers market, wildlife gardening, country crafts and goods. From 6.00pm - 9.00pm there will be a barn dance, bat & moth watching, lanterns, food & bar. Tel. 01432 - 356872.

Saturday, 13th September. Kington Show. *MAN* will have a small display of early fruits and identification service from 12.00am – 5.00pm.

Saturday 13th September. The Core of the Matter – Orchard Conference at Tatton Park. [See P. 11 for full details of this 2nd conference put on by the Cheshire Orchard Project.]

Sunday, 14th September. Entertainment under the Apples at Penlanole. From 2.00pm-6.00pm. On the A470 between Newbridge-on-Wye and Rhayader, just south of the Vulcan Arms. (See P.4) For further details Tel. 01597-811487.

Saturday/Sunday, 20th/21st September. Abergavenny Food Festival to be held in the Market Hall and the Castle. A celebration of food of the Marches. The information leaflet has the heading EXPERTS... ENTHUSIASTS... ECCENTRICS. (Wonder which category we come in?!) Farmer's Market with local specialist food producers selling delicacies.

MAN will be at the Castle on the Saturday only, where there will be a display of fruit, an identification service and book sales. Our member, Colin Gardiner, will be in the Market Hall where he will be selling his certified organic Gellirhyd Apple Juice. Further details from Julia French. Tel. 01873-851643.

Sunday 21st September. Croft Castle. Autumn Fair. It is hoped that there will be a display of apples from Berrington Hall and Croft Castle. An apple identification service will be available. Tel. 01568-780246 for further information.

Saturday/Sunday, 27th/28th September. Malvern Autumn Show at the Three Counties Showground, Malvern. MAN will have a fruit display, including some apples from Berrington Hall and will be offering an identification service.

Saturday, 4th October Cider Making at The Greenwood Trust, Ironbridge, Shropshire. The day will include the history of cider, apple varieties, cider making demonstration and instructions on how to build a small timber framed cider press. Bring your own apples if you can. For further details, please contact The Greenwood Trust on 01952-432769 or at gwt@greenwoodtrust.org.uk

Saturday, 11th October. Apple Day at The Greenwood Trust, Ironbridge, Shropshire.

Saturday/Sunday, 11th/12th October. 'The Big Apple'. From 12.00am -5.00pm. A harvest-time celebration of English apples and cider in the Herefordshire parishes of the Marcle Ridge. The venue will again be Much Marcle. There will be fruit displays, tastings, identifications and apples and apple juices on sale at The Royal Oak. MAN will be there. Apple teas will be available at Much Marcle Memorial Hall, where there will be a display of cider fruits and perry pears.

On Saturday, from 2.30-4.00pm, there will be a cookery demonstration with Wiz Clift, Apples in Season, at Great Barn, Hellens. Tickets £3.50. From 4.30-6.00pm there will be a poetry walk with a set of readings led by Charles Bennett, Director of the Ledbury Poetry Festival, finishing with hot spiced apple juice. In Dragon Orchard, tickets £3.

Guided walks on both days round Awnells Farm orchards, from 11.30am. For further details of talks, demonstrations and other events, phone Jackie Denman, Secretary of the 'Big Apple Association', on 01531-670544.

Saturday, 18th October. Marcher Apple Network's annual event to celebrate Apple Day. This year we will be at the Shire Hall, St Peter's Square, Hereford. The Assembly Rooms will be open for members and the public from 2.30 -5.00 pm, to

enjoy all the usual events associated with Apple Day, including a display of old apple and pear varieties. There will be apple juice tastings, and bottles of single variety apple juice will be on sale, which make most acceptable Christmas presents. Paul Davis will bring some old varieties of apple for sale. An identification panel will try to name your unknown fruit. Bring at least 3 specimens of each variety please. There will be a charge of £1 per variety for members, and £3 for non-members.

Tea and home-made refreshments with an apple theme will be on sale. If you can help with stewarding, providing some food or lending a hand in the kitchen with teas and washing up, please contact Chris Porter beforehand on 01874-730354. Admission, £1 at the door, children 50p. Why not make a day of it in Hereford and visit the Cider Museum in the morning and the Shirehall after lunch? [See below.]

The event will be preceded by the AGM, for members only. Doors will open at 1.15pm for the AGM at 1.30pm, which will be held in the No. 1 Committee Room. We are keen to hear members views and ideas and it would be helpful if questions could be sent in beforehand to any of the officers whose addresses are at the end of this Newsletter. There may be limited car parking spaces at the Shire Hall and the adjacent Jail Street Car Park. There are other car parks nearby and there is a large car park at Merton Meadow, off Edgar Street (A49) by the Football Ground which is 10 minutes walk from the Shire Hall.

Saturday/Sunday, 18/19th October. Cidermaking Festival at the Cider Museum, Ryelands Street, Hereford. There will be demonstrations of traditional cider making, a display of cider apple varieties and free samples of local cider, apple juice and cider brandy. Activities will include apple pressing for children, beekeeping and honey competition, coopering demonstration, children's activities and rides with Westons shire horse and dray. Normal Museum entrance charges apply. For more details, contact the Cider Museum on 01432-354207.

Tuesday, 21st October. Apple Day. Events countrywide. Programme available from Common Ground. Send SAE to Common Ground, Gold Hill House, 21, High Street, Shaftesbury, Dorset, SP7 8JE. Tel. 01747-850820. Or use the Web Site: www.commonground.org.uk

Saturday, 25th October. Leominster Apple Fair.

At Lion Ballroom, Broad Street. From 10.00am - 4.00pm. *MAN* will be holding an identification session. Details from Felicity Norman, Tel. 01568-780886.

Sunday, 26th October. Herefordshire Nature Trust at Lower House Farm, Tupsley. Ray Boddington will be there representing *MAN* and holding an identification session.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The financial year for *MAN* begins 1st August, to coincide with the beginning of the apple season. We send out the Newsletter to all those on our address list for the previous year, trusting they will wish to continue supporting *MAN*. PLEASE SEND YOUR SUBSCRIPTION of £5 NOW, for the current year, while you read your Newsletter No.9, unless you are a Life Member or pay by Standing Order. Slips are

inserted in this Newsletter, reminding members who pay by cheque that subscriptions are now due.

GIFT AID

Many members will know of this scheme whereby the Inland Revenue pays 28p in the pound to a charity for subscriptions and donations with the proviso that a Gift Aid form has been signed by the member and returned to the Secretary/Treasurer. Some forms have been returned but I now ask that more members sign and return the form in the centre of the Newsletter. Forms are not required again from those who signed previously. Thank you.

Tom Froggatt

SPRING 2004 NEWS SHEET

Any items for the Spring News Sheet, which is in the form of a double-sided A4 sheet, would be welcome, to arrive before March. It can include brief updates, advance notice of summer events etc.

Sheila Leitch

ADVERTS

You will have noticed that we have included a couple of half page adverts by two of our members in this Newsletter, on P.23. If you would like to place an advert in the next Newsletter, large or small, perhaps some item you have for sale, or apple books, please contact Tom Froggatt to discuss size and costs.

NEWSLETTERS

Material for Newsletter No. 10, will be welcomed throughout the year, but please send articles, or at least an indication of length, to the Editor, Sheila Leitch, by the beginning of July, 2004, at the latest. Dates of events and small news items and 'fillers' can be accepted in early August. To save time in producing future Newsletters, if you have access to email, please email your article as a Word attachment with the letters *MAN* in the title to my neighbour: travers_b@yahoo.co.uk. Otherwise, please send articles to me, preferably in Word format, or RTF or TXT on disk. Typed or hand-written is fine if you are not into computers. Grateful thanks to the team of keen-eyed proof-readers. We should point out that the views expressed in the Newsletter are those of individual contributors, not necessarily those of *MAN*.

MAN OFFICERS:-

Chairman

Mr.R.B.Boddington
Westwyn
20 Wainey Lane
Aylestone Hill
HEREFORD
HR1 1JD
☎ 01432-273394

Membership Secretary

Mr. D. Kempton
Brook House
Hopsey
CRAVEN ARMS
Shropshire
SY7 8HD

Network Co-ordinator

Mrs. Sheila Leitch
Wye View
Glasbury-on-Wye
Powys
via HEREFORD
HR3 5NU
☎ 01497-847354

MAN is grateful to Mr James Bailey, of 'CompuPrint', Kilpeck, another of our members, for printing this Newsletter.

MARCHER APPLE NETWORK

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE No:- 3787303

CHARITY No:- 1095151

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WILL BE HELD AT THE SHIREHALL
HEREFORD
ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH, 2003
AT 1.30pm.

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies for absence
- 2) Minutes of the last meeting
- 3) Chairman's Report
- 4) Receive & adopt accounts for the year ending 31/7/03
(Copies available at meeting or posted on receipt of a SAE)
- 5) Any Other Business – your chance to speak or ask questions

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

T.W.FROGGATT, A.C.I.B.
HON. SEC.

REGD. OFFICE:- ASHFORD MILL,
ASHFORD CARBONEL, LUDLOW, SY8 4BT

THE AGM WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE USUAL
CELEBRATION OF APPLE DAY from 2.30 - 5.00pm

