**Jubilee Orchard**

(junction of Knowles Hill / Beacon Rd)

2017 was a year of many developments in our Orchard.

* We had a good crop of apples and pears, a few cherries, but the plum trees were new replacements, for those we moved to the Jinnie trail, so they may crop better in 2018. We were delighted to win some prizes again for our fruit at the Gala in August.

We have created four beds at the north of the orchard.

* These now have well established herbs including mint, parsley, rosemary, sage, thyme, chives, fennel, angelica, sorrel, garlic, parsley, feverfew, marjoram and oregano.
* There are also fruit bushes including gooseberry, raspberry (along the fence), blackberry and jostaberry. Also redcurrant and blackcurrant.
* We also have two rhubarb plants

With the help of RODSEC members, we created two new beds, where we planted poppy seeds. We hope to reseed these beds and perhaps create two more, for red flowers in order to supply some of the flowers needed for the 2018 commemorations.

One of the bat boxes was blown down and two of the bird boxes were attacked, we think by squirrels.

We have created new maps and quizzes which can be used by visitors to the Orchard. The cubs visited on two occasions and trialled the quiz for the first time. We hope this may become an annual (atleast) event.

Over the winter we will tidy and weed the beds ready for spring and prune the trees.

We will also update the maps and other resources.

These are available on the village website and from the Parish Council,

**Can you help?**

* Volunteers are always welcome, contact Mike Robson or other PC members for details.

For 2018 we could especially welcome donations of

* 2 more bird boxes (with metal hole protector)
* Herbs (seeds or plantlets)
* Rhubarb plants
* Soft fruit bushes, such as redcurrant, blackcurrant and gooseberry.
* Seeds of red flowers

Donations can be sent to Mike Robson at 45 The Lawns (01283 480599)