Jubilee Orchard. Winter 2018

The Jubilee Orchard was created in 2012 and is at the junction of Knowles Hill and Beacon Road.

The land is owned by our PC and was formerly a village bottle dump.

During 2018 our Orchard has continued to mature and develop.

Some apples won 1st prize at the Village Gala and some Pears won a 2nd prize.

Many cherries were enjoyed by the Beavers Scouts (who continue to visit regularly) before they were all eaten by the birds.

The plums this year were very poor, with only a few trees fruiting and the crop being very small.

It is good to see members of the village, including De Ferrers students on their way home, enjoying the products of our Orchard.

In our family, a raspberry and apple pie, with fruit fresh from the Orchard, was a big success with the grandchildren. The rhubarb gin also goes down well in the evening!

The land between the trees is steadily being developed in to plots for other plants. Our policy is to grow edible plants such as herbs and fruit bushes or indigenous flowers that will attract bees and other pollinators.

This year we have had available at various times and in variable amounts-

Braeburn apples, Cox Orange Pippin apples, Bramley apples, Conference pears, Sunburst cherries, Victoria plums, Pershore plums.

Gooseberry, Raspberry, Blackberry, Jostaberry, Red currant, Black currant, Rhubarb.

Mint, Rosemary, Lavender, Sage, Thyme, Marjoram, Chives, Parsley, Fennel, Feverfew, Angelica, Oregano, Sorrell, Garlic.

Thanks to a donation of left over plants from Garden Sunday, we also had a good crop of tomatoes

When visiting the Orchard please take a sensible amount for your own personal needs and if a plant is looking heavily cropped or in poor / immature condition then please leave it alone.

The PC village website has quizzes, maps and other resources about the Orchard, as well as fact sheets about the plants. They can be freely downloaded and used.

If you have a good recipe for fresh fruit, or the use of fresh herbs, then please share it.

<https://rollestonondovepc.co.uk/our-village/the-jubilee-orchard>

A big thank you to Nathan Barnett of Barnett Tree services for the donation of the two logs, carved in two seats, which are now regularly used in the Orchard.

[www.barnetttreeservices.co.uk/](http://www.barnetttreeservices.co.uk/)

Thank you also to Catherine Birch for the donation of the Bench on Knowles Hill, just by the gate to the Jubilee Orchard

Any support you can give next year will be much appreciated.

Any plants or cuttings can be donated.

We also need to replace some of the bird boxes.

Please contact Mike Robson (01283 480599) or any other member of the Parish Council.