



# All Ways Apples

## ...on Tour 2020

**Food Plymouth's All Ways Apples Festival 2020 was 'different' due to COVID-19 restrictions!**

We could not hold our usual BIG FESTIVAL at Devonport Guildhall because of this. Instead we went on tour with a series of micro events across the city! Dave Curno's amazing apple pressing trailer made this possible as it was designed to make it easy to work with very small groups of volunteers and keep everyone safe by social distancing. Between August and October All Ways Apples held 13 apple events, including harvesting apples at the Goschen Centre and a pasteurising session. We pressed more than 400 litres of juice. It was wonderful to visit so many different orchards across the city and take advantage of the abundance of fruit. We worked with the orchard volunteers, encouraging new people to get involved in these wonderful spaces.

Check out our [short film](#) made by Russ Floyd.

Plymouth City Council's Green Minds project was our key funder this year, with additional funding from the Council's Public Health team, the Millfields Trust, Nudge Community Builders, Stonehouse Residents Association and Keyham Green Places. The [Food Plymouth](#) All Ways Apples team really appreciated the support and funding which made these events possible during such challenging times.



### August

24<sup>th</sup> August - Trial session at **Keyham Green Places**. This was to test the mobile unit's workings and to adjust accordingly.

Keyham Green Places always has an abundance of windfalls from their beautiful old apple tree. Together with their volunteers and Carmen Wong from JarSquad, we turned the apples into juice. This was shared with community members and some was frozen to use during the winter. We were invited back at the end of September for a second apple pressing as the tree was so prolific!







## September

5<sup>th</sup> September - Residents of **Weston Mill village** at the western end of Ham Woods invited us to come and help them harvest their apples from their orchard. It was a wonderful day with residents of all ages working together and learning how to make juice. At the end of the day a bottle of juice was delivered to every house with plenty left to preserve for future village events.



Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September - Fabulous day at Union Street Party in the sunshine







The old apple tree



24<sup>th</sup> September – Our second visit to **Keyham Green Places** to keep pressing the windfalls from their wonderful old apple tree which has provided the community with masses of apples for many years. The apple pressing events meant that they had lots of juice to share with local people. They also borrowed the #JarSquad dehydrator for a week to make dried apple rings. It all links in with Keyham Green Places' community growing, community kitchen and their Food Bank which runs on Mondays and Thursdays.



26<sup>th</sup> September  
- The Millfields Trust and the Stonehouse Residents Association funded the apple pressing day in the community garden at **Stonehall Flats Community Garden** for local residents.



Making masks with Karen Evans of ClanKind

Thank you for organizing the apple pressing.  
It was a brilliant day.



Discovering stars as we prepare the apples at Stonehall Flats



**Clan-Kind** joined some of our events to encourage people to create an 'Orchard Clan' with six online workshops – history, foraging for apples and creative activities. (Photos of this event were taken by Fiona Evans.)





Efford Valley Community Orchard with Efford Time Bank and local residents



Hand washing with the fun 'Tippy Tap'



We were very lucky to be a part of one of the micro events and the members who partook in the activities thoroughly enjoyed themselves, I was fascinated to see the apple pulping and juicing process up close. Hat's off to Tess and Dave Curnow of Friends of Ham Woods for their continued engagement throughout what has been a challenging year for all.



## October

2<sup>nd</sup> October - Devonport Park Activity Centre



Routeways  
We had a great time apple pressing!

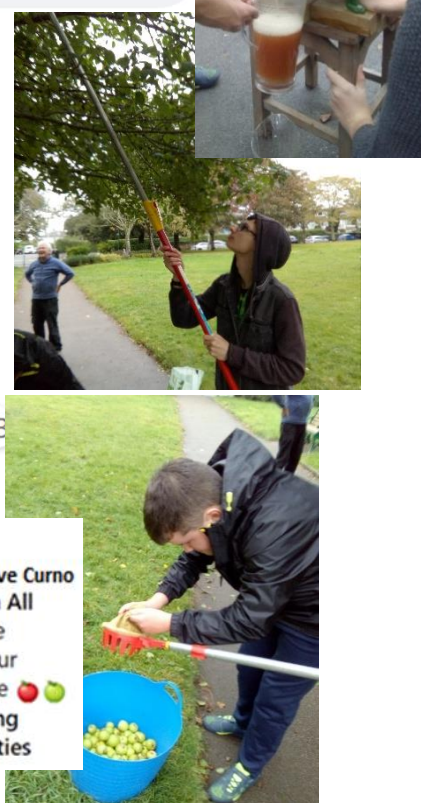


Like · Reply · Message · 1w

Devon Park

October 7 at 2:05 PM · 🌐

and Dave Curno  
We were lucky enough to have the lovely Tess Wilmot from All Ways Apples Festival join us last week to help us give apple pressing a go! We were able to pick our own apples from our garden and use the hand press to turn them into apple juice 🍏🍏  
#applepicking #inclusion #SEN #disabilityfriendly #learning #teamwork #advocate #Britainsoceancity #newopportunities







11th October

This was our largest event in Ham Woods with nine dads and their children with the Plymouth's new **Dangerous Dads project**. Ian Blackwell, founder of the Dangerous Dads network, organized the event.

The group was divided into two, with each group harvesting and preparing the apples in turn. Most of the apples in the orchard had already been harvested so we explored the woods to find the hidden apples trees and bring them back to the trailer to prepare.

Dangerous Dads are looking forward to holding regular events and exploring other green spaces in the city and returning to Ham Woods in the future.

We loved meeting the other Dads and kids. It was fun exploring Ham Woods and finding the apple trees



Having a rest in Ham Woods community orchard







12<sup>th</sup> October - **Ernesettle** has two young orchards with plans for another one soon. It was lovely to have the regular volunteers helping to make the juice. Due to the bad weather, the event delayed by three hours until 2pm and the rain more or less stopped. The sun even came out for a while. Dave kept nice and dry under his shelter.

Ray, Richard and Barbara also came to the pasteurising event at Leadworks in Stonehouse. They wanted to find out how the pasteurising process works as it won't be long before they have lots of apples in Ernesettle from all their trees.



It would be great to include apple pressing at community events in Ernesettle. It is such a lovely activity.

Sally Walker Time Bank



### 13<sup>th</sup> October – **Harvesting at the Goschen Centre.**

For the past seven or eight years we have harvested lots of apples from the trees at the Goschen Centre in Keyham for the Festival each October. When the City College was using the building, we used to organize groups of students to help harvest the fruit for the Festival and they would keep plenty to make chutney together. Recently Babcock International has taken back the site and is planning to redevelop the area. Dave and Tess had met Richard Cooper from Babcock at the Enrich programme in 2019. They took the opportunity to highlight the value of the trees and explore the potential of restoring and caring for this distinctive linear orchard. We had our first event this autumn with Roger and two members from the Babcock environmental team, exploring the orchard and harvesting the fruit. We are working together to create a proposal for regular seasonal maintenance of this these fruitful trees.







## 16<sup>th</sup> October – Southway Valley Community Orchard

Working with Rachel Dobbs, we brought together a small team of community activists who have ideas to do more over the coming years. "I loved taking part in All Ways Apples on Tour at Southway Community Orchard. I've been working with Southway Community Group over the last year or so to map local resources and assets, and to think about how we can do things differently in the area by injecting some more creativity into what goes on here. The apple pressing day gave us a great opportunity to get together and think about new possibilities for future projects in the area! This has been especially important at a time when Covid has put everything else on pause. It was great to meet outdoors, enjoy the fresh air, the orchard and the green space at Pendeen. Everyone could get involved in a way that felt comfortable for them, and we all got to enjoy the fruits of our labours with the yummy apple juice we produced," said Rachel, adding that "The All Ways Apples event brought lots of different threads from different projects and ideas together - we could share some of the jams we'd made through JarSquad, catchup on how everyone at Southway Community Group was doing, learn new skills, find out about Clan-Kind's Wassailing ideas, and continue the work that had been put in motion through Take A Part's mapping project. It was an ideal situation!"

Thank you for this morning. I really enjoyed myself. Lovely food and great to catch up with my friends



We shall indeed look out for future events as we enjoyed it so much.



Masks made with Clan-Kind







17<sup>th</sup> October - **Efford Marsh**

We parked in the green space at the top of Deer Park Drive where a new orchard being proposed.

"We enjoyed a fantastic family-friendly morning preparing apples, and went home with delicious juice and lots of love for the humble apple! An inspiring hands-on session. Thank you" J.A.



Michele Deborah Jackson is with Kevan Gosling and Tess Wilmot.

October 17 at 12:20 PM · 🌐

Always Apples at Efford Marsh this morning, still there now! Yummy freshly pressed apple juice. Lovely people and atmosphere.

Jenny Ayrton

I think the mobile apple pressing trailer is an absolute genius idea!!!!

Love · Reply · Message · 1w



Jane Outdoorplay

Jenny Ayrton i was just thinking same thing ... Precious Plastic Plymouth and Tavistock ...look what Dave designed ....

Love · Reply · Message · 6d



Jenny and her daughter brought apples from Woodford School in Plympton to Efford Marsh to make juice. They collected some pasteurised juice later to take back to the school.

The apples we pressed included some heritage apples donated to us by Saul Walker who maintains the grounds of a Stonelands country house near Teignmouth. We used the apples for pressing and saved the best apples to offer for sale at the new Sustenance Food Hub at The Plot in Union Street in December.



All Ways Apples Festival

Published by Tess Wilmot · October 14 at 11:33 PM · 🌐

Excited that we are taking delivery of some fabulous heritage apples this week. Which are your favourites? Any you have not tasted? Food Plymouth



Saul Walker @GardeningSaul · 13 Oct

#Apple harvest day at #Stonelands - 'Newton Wonder', 'Allington Pippin', 'Claygate Permain', 'Old Somerset Russet', 'Adams Permain', 'Peter Lock', 'Ashmeads Kernal' and 'Ribston Pippin' - great #heritage varieties - all going to @All\_Ways\_Apples in #Plymouth #orchard #garden







26<sup>th</sup> October – Our final 2020 event was the joint **Pasteurising and #JarSquad event at Leadworks in Stonehouse**

We pasteurised all the spare apple juice that we had frozen from the autumn's community events so that they could be preserved and enjoyed over the coming year. This event was in partnership with **#JarSquad** and extra apples were used to make chutney, jams and other preserves. Rachel Dobbs and Carmen Wong from **#JarSquad** had been involved with several of the apple pressing events during the autumn and the collaboration was really beneficial all around.

“When we arrived, I felt like the atmosphere was very friendly and everyone seemed to be fully concentrated on the setting up. There were already a few baskets full of different varieties of apples on the tables and to add to the collection we also brought a big tray with apples and pears from our garden. The harvest was plentiful this year!

Tess was busy pouring some apple juice they made the week before into bottles to sterilise [pasteurise] it...She greeted us and showed us how to use a spiralizer, that green machine peels and takes the core out as it spiralises! Brilliant! ...We got quickly involved in doing small tasks and met Carmen who helped my brother with laying the apples on the tray to dry them off in the small oven. Carmen made us try a sample of dried apples from their last batch... really delicious!! 😊

We only stayed an hour but we completed various tasks, like helping cleaning the fruits to make jam. Carmen also showed us a short video about the process of pressing apples...before ending up in bottles.

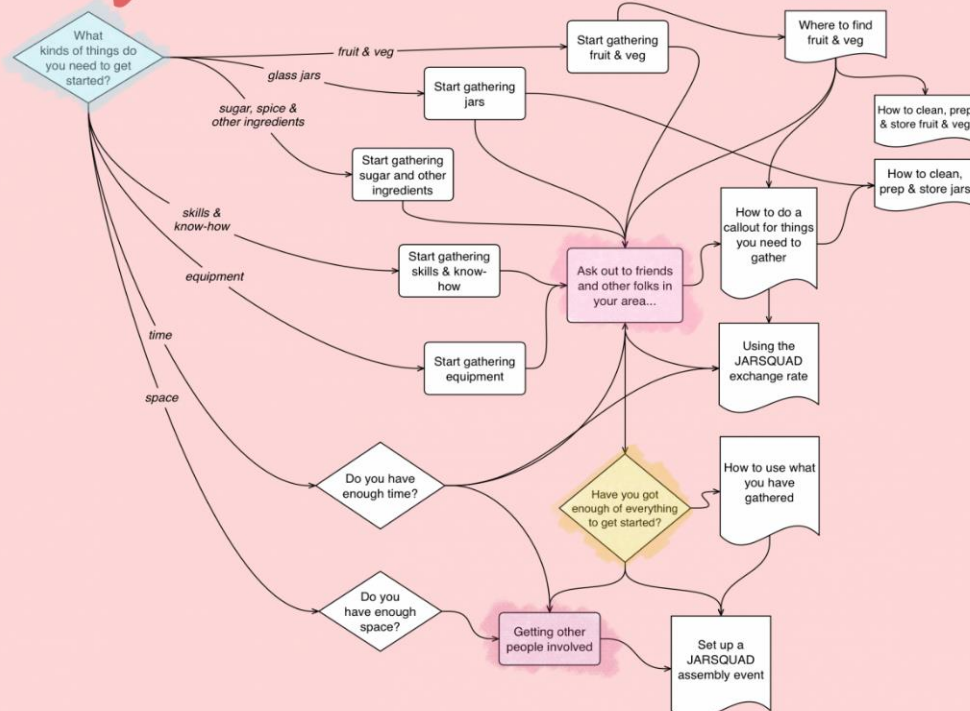
When we had to leave we were given 2 bottles of apple juice and 2 jars of jam; they taste amazing!

Carmen and Tess are part of a group called jar squad which collects empty jars and re-uses them to fill them up with their homemade jams, jellies and other recipes... I think it is a great idea to re-use jar to fill them in with delicious local goodies! My mum said we might be joining the group and help out at the end of November. I am excited 😊

Overall, it was a great and very fun morning, we learnt new things and I hope we can go again.” Eva

JarSquad is the missing link!

Gia Daprano



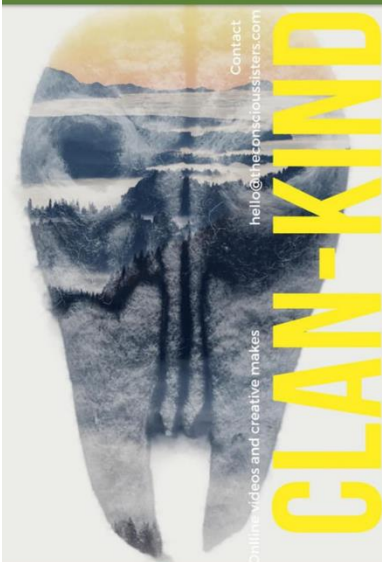




In conclusion, despite the restrictions around COVID-19, we managed to adapt what we usually do and take All Ways Apples on Tour across the city. We visited 10 different community orchards. We took part in the Union Street Party and shared all the juice we pressed. We were given lots of apples from private gardens, schools and community orchards. We harvested lots too. We gave away both apples and fresh juice to volunteers and passers by. We pressed more than 400 litres of juice. Any juice that was not shared out at the events was frozen and then pasteurised. We provided apples for the Village Hub project in Stoke and took part in the Sustenance Food Hub at the Plot in December as part of the wider Sustenance Partners Project.

Karen Evans from [Clan-Kind](#) joined some of our events and developed an 'Orchard Clan' and we will be collaborating together to do a Wassail in early 2021. This is a lovely legacy to carry forward.



**DEVELOP A DEEPER CONNECTION WITH THE APPLE TREE THIS AUTUMN**

Clan-Kind is a free project that connects people living in Plymouth to lost landscapes. It creates 'micro-nations' or clans focused around celebrating each neighbourhood's natural or built heritage, be it prehistoric cave, silted creek, orchard, forest, quarry, castle or cove.

A brand new online clan celebrating the humble apple tree is being launched as winter draws near. Ideal for those of us lucky enough to have a community orchard or an apple tree in our allotment or garden. Immerse yourself in the folklore including the legend of Johnny Appleseed, biodiversity, recipes, tree care and tips on starting or maintaining a community orchard. We will also be devising wassailing rituals and props for you to use for your own community wassail for January 2021.

Over seven sessions, each one around an hour long.... the clan will develop its own identity. Sessions include an orchard forage with All Ways Apples' Tess Wilmot. Richard Fisher will take you on a virtual history walk and artist Karen Evans will guide you through some fabulous creative makes. This clan experience is free and all materials will be posted to your home. Use this winter to connect in a whole new way.

Clan-kind is part of the Mayflower 400 programme and the sister project of Settlement, a creative digital occupation by 28 contemporary Native American artists launching on 13th October 2020. Joining Clan-Kind will give you first dibs on any Settlement activities. To find out more email us at [hello@theconsciousisters.com](mailto:hello@theconsciousisters.com)

