

The St James Village Orchard Project

ORCHARD PRODUCE: OUTCOMES - THE WIDER VIEW

In addition to the obvious benefit of an attractive variety of locally produced fruit of verifiable provenance, the overall programme potentially has a wide range of valuable, additional products and outcomes. The following was produced to illustrate these:

Fruit products

- o fruit juices
- o cider, fruit-based wines
- o jams, jellies and other preserves
- fruit-based pastries and other dishes
- windfalls for animal feed

Tree products

- o prunings, thinnings and logs for firewood
- o fruitwood for local wood-turners
- o composted leaf-mold

· Orchard and meadow products

- honey
- wild-flower meadow hay

• The St James Village Orchard branded products

- Locally produced products (by a local craft group) such as cards, wood turning
- Environmentally friendly products such as bags, recipes and fruit products

Orchard events

- o picnics
- barbecues
- private and village-sponsored outdoor parties

Personal development

- o training in tree care
- o orchard and meadow management
- bee-keeping
- o courses in the cooking and preservation of fruit
- school visits

- o support for school course-work
- o leaflets and web-site information wild-life talks and walks

Community development

- an amenity particularly suited to the residents of this rural, agricultural village
- o improved village and wider community cohesion
- o alternative to indoor, hall-based activities
- schools partnerships
- connection and involvement with local related events e.g. Metfield Apple Day
- highlight the village in the supply of produce to local shops and institutions
- o tree sponsorship by individuals and families
- o extended development of St James' sites of natural interest

Charitable and commercial development

- support for local charities from the sale of excess fruit and fruit products
- support for charities wishing to have a unique venue for their events
- support for other village events
- assuring the long-term future of the orchard and its related programmes