

The Orchard

Chedzoy Nature Walk



Not all plants are edible and some are unsuitable for children, during pregnancy or when suffering from certain medical conditions. Please research their suitability based on your personal needs and enjoy!

The Orchard is planted with a selection of trees grafted and grown locally by Steepholding in Wellington. The area is under planted with red clover and daffodils, there are dense clusters of lesser celandine and by the bench a globe thistle.

Did you know fruit trees are normally grafted? This is when a cultivated cutting called the scion is fused (grafted) on to a root system (rootstock) from another related species. You can make an orchard hedge by grafting pears, quince and medlars on Hawthorne!

[91] **Blenheim Orange**

This classic English Apple was first discovered in 1740 at Blenheim Palace and the durable wood was used to build railway cog wheels. The Blenheim is triploid which means it has 3 chromosomes as opposed to 2. It is a sterile tree that cannot pollinate itself or others and requires insects to carry pollen from a neighbouring tree in the right pollination group to bear fruit.

- Dessert and cooking apple
- Sweet and nutty flavour, perfect with cheese
- Harvest late September to early October
- Cold stored fruit can keep for 3-4 months
- Pollination Group 4

[92] **Spartan**

Spartan evolved in the 1920s from the Pacific Agri-food research centre in British Columbia, Canada. Leave the fruit on the tree until they are fully flush and ripe to enjoy its full flavour.

- Dessert apple
- Sweet strawberry and melon flavour, juicy and crisp
- Harvest early October
- Cold stored fruit can keep for 5 months
- Pollination Group 3

[93] Old Greengage

From the medieval period the greengage, which originated in Armenia, started to spread across Europe. In the 1720s Sir William Gage imported the tree to England and it was later named after him.

- Dessert and cooking greengage
- Sweet and juicy
- Harvest mid August
- Preserve to store
- Pollination Group 3

[94] Avalon

This plum was created in the 1920s at the Long Ashton research station in Bristol. Pick semi ripe when using for cooking.

- Dessert and cooking plum
- Firm and not overly sweet
- Harvest mid August
- Preserve to store
- Pollination Group 5

[95] Opal

Opal is a creation from the Horticultural Research Station in Sweden, crossed from the hardy Early English plum.

- Dessert and cooking plum
- Sweet, juicy, bite-sized plums
- Harvest late July
- Preserve to store
- Pollination Group 3

[96] Lord Burghley

The Marquis of Exeter discovered this apple in 1834 at Burghley.

- Dessert apple
- Sweet, rich, crisp and aromatic
- Harvest mid October
- Cold stored fruit can keep for 6 months
- Pollination Group 5

[97] Doyenne du Comice

An all time classic 19th century pear from France imported to England by Sir Frances Dyke Acland in 1858. Doyenne needs to be picked whilst green and the fruit hard, then ripened for a few days in a warm room.

- Dessert and cooking pear
- Highly perfumed, rich, buttery and juicy
- Harvest November
- Cold stored fruit can keep for 2 months
- Pollination Group 4

[98] Clapp's Favourite

This one was a chance seedling discovered in Massachusetts on a property owned by Thaddeus Clapp, hence the name. The flavour is said to be divine and best eaten straight from the tree.

- Dessert pear
- Delicate and juicy
- Harvest August
- Does not store
- Pollination Group 4

[99] **Shipova**

Shipova is an unusual tree being a cross between a Rowan and Pear tree, it is thought to have been cultivated as far back as the 1600s.

- Dessert pear
- Firm and crisp with a sweet tropical taste
- Harvest September to November
- Cold stored fruit can keep for 1 month
- Pollination Group 4

[100] **Bloody Ploughman**

Hailing from Scotland in 1883 this pink fleshed apple is steeped in folklore, the story goes that a local ploughman was shot by the estate gamekeeper for scrumping apples, and when his wife threw the ploughman's clothes away an apple seeded from the coat pocket. With Chedzoy playing it's part in the Monmouth Rebellion and the ploughing match held every fifth year in the fields opposite, we just had to have this one!

- Cooking and juicing apple
- Sweet, crisp and juicy
- Harvest mid September
- Cold stored fruit can keep for 2 months
- Pollination Group 4



The Chedzoy Fair Share Project was made possible through funding from the Climate Emergency Community Fund and the Queens Green Canopy. We would like to extend our thanks to all the volunteers who gave their time and expertise to create this journey and bring it to life, you are incredible. Thank you!

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