



South West Community Woodlands Trust

Orchards and Wild Harvest Project for Dumfries and Galloway

Aim of the project

We aim to plant fruit and nut trees in Dumfries and Galloway – so we can eat more local food, be healthy, enhance biodiversity and reduce carbon emissions.

“Eat local fruit and nuts...”

... plant more fruit and nut trees!”

We will

- Help people plant and look after fruit trees, and create new orchards
- Establish community ‘orchard groups’ to ensure the sustainability of the project
- Support local fruit procurement and demonstrate cooking and preserving skills
- Contribute towards reducing Scotland’s carbon emissions by 80% by 2050
- Celebrate the seasons by holding local blossom and fruit events
- Plant fruit and nuts along core path network hedges and cycle routes
- Enhance biodiversity by planting edible indigenous fruit and nuts
- Link with the Dumfries and Galloway Local Biodiversity Action Plan to create a database of orchards and notes on local varieties and performance
- Work with festival and event organisers to help balance the carbon footprint through a carbon compensation scheme supporting this project

“We can work together...”

... to create future wild harvests”

We would like to

- 🌱 Work with schools, allotment groups, community woodlands, landowners, individuals and communities to help with procurement of trees, and the planting of orchards and edible hedges
- 🌱 Work with local schools and the Eco Schools programme by helping plant fruit and nuts in school grounds
- 🌱 Work with Visit Scotland and regional access office to brand and market the Dumfries and Galloway cycle route and the core path network as ‘Fruit Routes of Dumfries and Galloway’

*“apples.. hazelnuts.. plums... pears...
crabapples... blackberries...*



Think Global... Act Local

Over the last few decades orchards have disappeared from the UK in the wake of imported fruit, fruit that is often tasteless and stored for months in energy intensive chillers. The UK is only 16% self sufficient in indigenous fruit.

Scottish orchards, hedgerow produce and regional varieties such as the Galloway Pippin apple are now considered a valuable asset to health, biodiversity and the local economy. This is due to many factors such as economic forces, the desire for tasty local fruit and the desperate need to reduce carbon emissions.

Climate Change... you can make a difference

Eating local, seasonal fruit is a low carbon, healthy choice.

“Local fruit is energy efficient, low carbon... and tasty”

The Orchard and Wild Harvest Project, in collaboration with the Crichton Carbon Centre, aims to help reduce the carbon footprint of the residents of Dumfries and Galloway. The project will help reduce carbon emissions by:

- 👣 Encouraging the purchase of local and seasonal fruit and vegetables - reduces the need for imports and heated greenhouses
- 👣 Promoting green tourism, encouraging people to spend leisure time cycling or walking The ‘Dumfries and Galloway Fruit Routes’ - reduces car use
- 👣 Encouraging the reduction of food waste, recycling and composting
- 👣 Demonstrating energy efficient cooking and storing methods
- 👣 Cultivating a low carbon lifestyle through volunteering, planting trees and attending local events and festivals

*quince... elderberries... raspberries...
blaeberrries... damsons... sloes...*



Everyone Can Help

- Donate a tree - £25 pays for the purchase and planting of one tree, and years of fruit
- Give a tree as a birthday, Christmas, anniversary or special day present, planting certificate will be sent to recipient. Contact for details about donating or gifting trees
- Find a site for fruit tree planting
- Help a local school with their garden / orchard projects
- Form a group to help look after the trees
- Help plant trees in your community
- Help form a 'guardian of the trees' group
- Encourage friends and relatives to buy local fruit and vegetables in season
- Grow your own fruit and vegetables in your garden
- Send information about existing fruit trees and their performance to be entered into the Local Biodiversity database
- Let us know if you plant a fruit tree and we'll put it on the map, your tree or bush will go towards our target of 1000 trees for Dumfries and Galloway



***Together we can give
Dumfries and Galloway a fruitful future***



**For donation, information or advice,
contact project co-ordinator Jools Cox**
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Orchard and Wild Harvest Project



***With your help we can plant
1000 fruit and nut trees
in Dumfries and Galloway!***

Why?



To provide local seasonal fruit and nuts now and for future generations



To help reduce the carbon footprint of Dumfries and Galloway



To enhance the cycle and footpaths in order to encourage healthy outdoor activity and green tourism



To increase regional biodiversity

How can I help?



- By donating a tree to mark a special occasion or as a memorial
- By gifting a tree as a present for a special occasion
- By helping your organisation or school raise funds for trees
- By helping to plant trees
- By offering a good site to plant trees
- By sharing information about existing trees and their performance



Project managed by South West Community Woodlands Trust registered charity