

Doynton Community Orchard

Newsletter, Summer 2023

2023 has been another busy year in Summers Field after we celebrated ten years since the establishment of the community orchard last year. The Friends of Summers Field Committee has run successful events that have been a great chance for friends and families to meet. We're delighted that our events are helping to raise funds to support the development of this wonderful community space.

As part of the village fete In June, Summers Field played host to activities such as welly throwing and kids entertainment, as well as classic cars. In July, we held another of our popular Cream Tea events which saw people of all ages enjoying homemade scones and strawberries in the sunshine at the field.

Thank you to everyone who supported the fundraising for the orchard and wildflower meadow over the past year. We've been fortunate to receive community contributions as well as a donation from the Coronation Committee which are helping us to maintain Summers Field. Our aim is to keep the field as a space for nature and for people to enjoy and we continue to take steps to protect and encourage biodiversity.



We have had a good variety of wildflowers growing in the field again this year, including snakeshead fritillaries, cowslips and wild geraniums. We recently cut and baled the grass in some areas of the field to help promote the propagation of wildflowers. Look out for the areas for wildflowers that we have prepared this autumn. We've sown native and local wildflower seeds and will be monitoring how well they establish.



In September, we will be gathering fruit from the orchard for pressing juice which we plan to make available for you to enjoy. Our next event will be a seasonal celebration of the apple harvest. We will hold the **Autumn Feast** in the Village Hall on Saturday 14th October, from 6.30pm. On the night, we'll share an update on the orchard and offer a light supper, followed by a disco. Tickets will be available soon, look out for posters around the village and info on the village website. We look forward to seeing you there.

Friends of Summers Field is a charitable organisation and we rely on fundraising activities and donations to maintain and nurture the community orchard. We have to raise over £1,000 each year to cover leases to the council, insurance and general maintenance costs. We rely on support from all of us in the village through the events that FOSF organises. Please help us to secure the future of the orchard. We hope that you'll be able to offer your support and complete the donation form enclosed. Thank you!

FOSF Committee