

The Abundance Update

Oct 11th 2012

Hello All

Things are really slowing down on the fruit-picking front now.

Despite the weather and reports of poor fruit yields, we have picked 1188 kilos of apples, plums, pears, rhubarb and blackberries that would otherwise have gone to waste. And we have given 312 kilos of free fruit to local charities.

There are a few things coming up that people might be interested in.

Bee-Keeping talk

At Wimbledon Bookfest this Sat 13th Oct, 11am. Steve Benbow's hives are situated in the most unlikely of urban spaces – the roofs of Fortnum & Mason's, Tate Britain & Modern and an art Gallery in Wapping. Steve will talk about the challenges of modern beekeeping. The event will include a honey tasting from London Bee Company. Tickets can be booked online at <http://www.wimbledonbookfest.org/booking.html>.

Apple & pear gleaning

If anyone wants a trip to the countryside, this group organises outings to glean apples and pears in Kent. They have already picked over 2 tonnes and donated it to FareShare for the hungry and food insecure all round the UK. Sounds wonderful! To join an outing, please email martin.feeding5k@gmail.com or look at <http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.282937678472735.50350.141410032625501&type=1>

Sutton Community Farm

Over the last year or so, the farm has been growing and selling organic food. They are looking to expand and are wondering how many people in Wimbledon would be interested in buying their veggie bags. They currently grow 20 - 30% of the fruit and veg at the farm in Sutton and the target is to increase this to 70 -80% by July of next year. The rest is supplied by organic and biodynamic growers within about a 60 mile radius of their

farm and delivered freshly picked for the delivery day - Thursdays. Please contact anna@suttoncommunityfarm.org.uk if you are interested - and we can see if we can get enough people together to make this happen!

At Wisley

Taste of Autumn Festival - 17th -21st October. Sample different apple varieties, cookery demonstrations, displays of fruit and vegetables and explore new products on the food stalls.

Fruit identification day - 2-3 November - Bring along your fruit samples to be identified by RHS experts, and ask your fruit cultivation questions.

Ideally, bring three pieces of fruit and a twig with leaves attached, to aid identification. This is a free service. Times: 2 November 2-4pm; 3

November 11am-1pm and 2-4pm. For more information,

see <http://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley/what-s-on>

Other things happening around Wimbledon

Launch of '20's Plenty for Merton' campaign

on Wed 17th Oct from 7.30pm at Raynes Park Library

Come along to the launch of the campaign to get 20mph on most roads across Merton. Speakers will be Transport Minister Norman Baker, the leader of the national 20's Plenty campaign, Rod King, as well as Rev Andrew Wakefield, who can give a local perspective. For more information, please contact shas.sheehan@btinternet.com. See the poster [HERE](#)

Green Drinks

On 17th Oct from 8pm at the Hand & Racquet pub, 25-27 Wimbledon Hill, SW19 7NE

Everyone is welcome at the new Green Drinks. If you are interested in green and other sustainability issues, then this is an opportunity to exchange ideas, find out what's happening and just have a chat with like-minded people. On the third Wed of every month.

Food for Thought - Is Global Equality an Impossible Dream?

on Fri 26th Oct, from 1-2pm at Holy Trinity Church, 234 Wimbledon Broadway (next to the Polka Theatre) SW19 1SB

Part of a series of discussions looking at difficult issues. Jointly organised by the CND, Holy Trinity Church and the local United Nations. Tea and coffee provided. Bring sandwiches from 12.30pm.

The next discussion is on 15th Nov (starting at the later time of 1.30pm) and is entitled 'The Militarisation of Society', featuring speakers Bruce Kent and Sam Murgatroyd.

Plant & Produce Bring and Buy Sale

on Sat 27th Oct 10.30am-12.30pm at 21 Poplar Rd, Merton Park

The John Innes Society Gardening Group is holding a Plant and Produce Bring and Buy Sale. There will be plants and shrubs, garden produce, jams and chutneys, bulbs, compost and holly seedlings. Coffee and cakes. If you can donate plants/produce, help on the day or make cakes please contact Ann Redfearn (ann@arke.me.uk or 020 8286 9983). Entry is free.

1.4 billion reasons - open meeting

on Mon 29th Oct from 7.30pm at Colliers Wood Community Centre, Merton High Street

2012 is the UN International Year of Co-operatives – take this opportunity to hear about the Global Poverty Initiative. Global Poverty Ambassador, Lynda McDermott, will be speaking.

Green Coffee

on Nov 6th, 9.30-11am at REDS bar and grill, 86 The Broadway, right opposite Wimbledon Theatre SW19 1RQ

This is a get-together for people interested in environmental and community issues. It's an opportunity to exchange ideas and plan how to make Wimbledon a healthier, happier and more sustainable place. We normally meet up on the first Tuesday of the month and everyone is welcome. We'll be sitting in the room at the back of REDS.

Wimbledon Frost Fayre

on Sat 17th Nov 10am-6pm at St Mark's Church, behind Wimbledon Library SW19 7ND

This is a new event organised by Mums on the Go. The Frost Fayre will echo the traditional Winter Frost Fayres of the past, showcasing local arts, crafts, food and other artisan products. With live music and entertainment, locals will be treated to a taste of festive things to come along with the opportunity to get a head start on Christmas shopping. Stalls will be available inside the large church hall, with additional pitches in the adjacent

church garden (accessed from the hall) for food and drink stalls. If you are a small producer and do not think you will have enough to fill a whole stall, there may be opportunities to share a stall with another producer. For more information, contact victoria@mumsonthego.co.uk