



October 2022

Apple and Pear tasting 24 September

With many thanks to Hilary Dodson from the Northern Fruit Group, this was a great success with a lot of interest in the orchard and the fruit.

We tasted (and generally liked):

Eating Apples: Greensleeves, Red Devil, Sunset, Ribston Pippin, Egremont Russet, Discovery, and the two unknown local seedlings. All were popular, apart from the sour local seeding (from the tree by the bridge in the centre of Milnsbridge).

Cooking Apples: Emneth Early, Bramley, and Howgate Wonder. All were popular, with the first of these the favourite.

Pears: Hessel, Baron de Melo, Gorham, and a very tasty unknown pear we named 'Dumpy'. All were popular, and we discussed other lovely varieties that were not yet ready for tasting, such as Williams, Beurre Hardy, and Beth.



Orchard Plan

We looked around the site with Hilary and settled on the following layout: **Side banking:** 5 apple trees at the top, 8 step-over apple cordons at the bottom. **Rear wall:** 5 pear espaliers. **Base of steps:** 1 large Bramley. So 19 trees in total to order for March planting.

Working sessions over the autumn and winter – all welcome!

Saturdays 10am -1pm	Tasks
22 October 26 November 17 December 28 January	Dig planting holes, introduce manure, create posts and frameworks for espaliers, create compost heap,
25 February	Grafting workshop with Hilary at Milnsbridge Village Hall (TBC)
25 March (plus other dates if needed)	Plant and stake trees, protect trees, mulch, prune if necessary

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