

Apple Juicing Day at the Old Coop Emporium

Alison McRea reports on a first for Leek

The smell of apples permeated the Old Coop Emporium in Leek on Sunday 25th September, when local fruit lovers brought their apples to a public Apple Juicing Day organised by *Transition Leek*.

The group had arranged the event so that apples could be crushed and pressed for juice, helping to use up windfalls and surplus fruit from this year's bumper crop.

The crushed apples were pressed in a 36 litre cross beam press and those who brought apples participated in the process through washing, chopping, crushing, pressing and bottling.

There was tremendous help from the young people present, who participated in washing with great enthusiasm, as well as supervising their crushing and pressing.

The juice was poured into recycled wine bottles brought by participants as well as additional ones provided by Shapla Tandoori. Most of these were then pasteurised in the group's

sterilising unit to ensure the juice would last for several months. However, reports after the event indicate that families had no difficulty drinking up the unpasteurised juice that can only be stored for a few days.

Members of *Transition Leek* were



delighted at the success of the day, which was the first of its kind that they had organised. "Not only did lots of enthusiasts turn up on the day" said Nigel Williams, a member of the group, "but others who had large amounts of apples asked to use the equipment on subsequent occasions. We have had a couple of pressing

sessions since and this will be an on-going process for the rest of the apple season". Anyone interested can contact Nigel on 07752 400865.

One of the main aims of *Transition Leek* is to encourage local food production and use, so they bought the equipment

with a grant from the Robbie Williams' *Give-it-Sum* fund. Thanks to SMCVS and Staffs County Council for the venue, and to the Society of Friends, for a substantial donation of apples and storing the pasteurised bottles waiting for collection. More about *Transition Leek* and future events:

www.transitionleek.org.uk.

Blue Mugge

Discussion Circle

Tuesdays
Everybody welcome
Free too!

www.oddc.org.uk for notes for each meeting, also:

www.opendemocracy.net

11 Oct Nothing and nothingness, based on book *Nothing Matters*.

18 Oct The best town and country to live in...Muggers' criteria

25 Oct Chaos theory (IoT May 2002) and **The Neutrino** (IoT Apl 2011)

8 Nov Why Marx was Right (based on book by Terry Eagleton)

Careering away..

Westwood College is organising a Career's Evening for local schools (Leek High and Endon High School).

The event will take place at Westwood College Old Hall, Leek, on Thursday October 13th 6-8pm.

A huge number of employers as well as local Colleges & VI Forms will be at the event.

www.foxlowe.com

For more than a year Sam Ward, partner of Janet & Roger Warrillow's younger daughter Claire, has done sterling work for the Foxlowe project by setting up and maintaining our website. Sam's local connections also include his father, who is the manager of The Cock, Derby Street. Although Sam and Claire now live at Buxton and Sam has recently started a new job he has continued to keep www.foxlowe.com running.

The first issue of ST13 is on the site as will be this

No 2 issue in a day or so.

Marc Briand, our IT Co-ordinator is currently developing a new site at

www.foxloweartscentre.org.uk

and although it is live it is still at the development stage.

We are extremely grateful for all the time Sam has so willingly and generously devoted to the Foxlowe cause.

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For information about Leek Fairtrade Town contact Julie Taylor at the Town Council Office: 01538 381271

Jubilee Trees for Leek

Last week's Leek Town Council meeting was made aware of a scheme organised by the national Woodland Trust to donate free trees to community groups to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The trees come in a variety of species and you can have either 105 or 420 trees and they range from 20cm to 40cm (8" to 16") in height.

The town councillors suggested planting trees in Derby Street (where the wooden bollards are situated),

the bottom of Russell Street, Westwood and Ball Haye Green Recreation grounds and Wallbridge.

The Town Council will liaise with the Leek Civic Society regarding suggestions for suitable town centre locations.

More information can be found at: www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/moretrees-moregood/get-involved/plant-trees

The Town Council is holding a public meeting on Tuesday, 15 November 2011 at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber at Moorlands House. The agenda is about the town centre and the proposal to plant trees to mark the Queen's 60 years on the throne will be one of the items on the agenda.

Hairy Stuff! *Fresh Hair* anyway!

When did three become four? At the beginning of October when Amy, Mel and Kerry moved from their base at Les Hetres next to Nixon & Reeves, to their new salon at 17 Stanley Street, Leek where they have been joined by newcomer Jacqui.

"I never want to see a paint brush again." Amy said: "But it's finished now and we're really pleased with the decor. With our new furnishings our salon has a fresh, modern look. We've had some really nice comments."

Unlike the majority of towns across the country, Leek seldom has an empty shop for long. *Fresh Hair* is open six days a week and offers a warm welcome to both men and women.

The Swan

Every Thursday

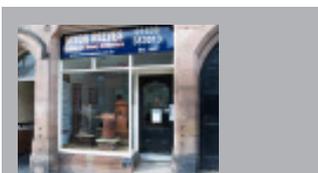
Cuckoo's Nest Folk Club

1st Friday monthly at the Swan

SITUATION

3 bands a night

St Edward Street, Leek.



Courtesy of Nixon & Reeves St Edward Street the Chimney Pot Preservation & Protection Society have a shop window display of varied pots. If you would like an informative and illustrated talk at your group call 01538 386946

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