

Nick Bradley
Chair Ide Parish Council

From: Peter Cloke
Chair Ide Community
Orchard Management
Group

Date: 8 May 2023

Ide Community Orchard - Progress Report

- 1 There has been a wonderful show of daffodils through the orchard - along the transverse path and around some of the trees. Everyone had admired them. We will plant many more next October
- 2 All the trees are now coming into blossom and will present an amazing show of inspirational colour over the next few weeks. Fingers crossed that we avoid any late frosts.
- 3 All the bases around the new trees have been treated with the recommended weed killer and a feed of granular long acting fertilizer has been applied. There is a Volunteers' day next Sunday 14 May, led by Mark and Julian, when the chippings mulch in the dumpy bags at the entrance will be put around the bases of all the trees to retain moisture during the drier summer months. Julian will talk about the owls and dormice and the ecology of the orchard, and show families round.
- 4 Once the weighty dumpy bags have been emptied and moved from the entrance, Mike Radford is standing ready to give the grass a cut. We will need to strim around the picnic tables and think about whether we have them in the best positions.
- 5 We are giving some initial thought to holding a dawn picnic on Midsummer's morning.
- 6 On Saturday 8 July 2023 IPC members will be aware that there will be a fundraising concert at Westown Farm featuring Police Dog Hogan with others. Income from ticket sales will go to the Orchard with all receipts from food and the bar going to Weir Meadow. Tickets are selling well.

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