



For an afternoon, a day or a full weekend – the Big Apple is a special opportunity to enjoy the autumn countryside in the Herefordshire parishes on the Marcle Ridge. The local orchards are famous for their cider fruit and their excellent eating apples. In our twenty-eighth year, the award-winning communities of these tiny parishes have put together a collection of small rural events based in and around Much Marcle, to enable you to share with us in our tradition of apple growing and cidermaking.

## WELCOME TO THE BIG APPLE 2016

Join us in celebrating English apples and cider in the 28th year of the Big Apple - a real opportunity to enjoy the autumn countryside in this corner of Herefordshire in and around Much Marcle.

## SHARE OUR TRADITION OF APPLE GROWING AND CIDERMAKING



We have put together for you a collection of small rural events where you can enjoy our local orchards, famous for their cider fruit and excellent eating apples.

In this unique event, we will be opening our farms and orchards, cider mills and barns for you to visit. Eight special venues in all, each one of them different but all with one thing in common – apples!



## PICK AND MIX

Your programme is entirely flexible – you can choose where and when to go for an afternoon, a day or a full weekend. You can simply come for a walk or to buy some apples. Or you can fit in several different events. The map and programme inside will help you to plan your visit.



## COME AND EXPLORE

Of course you can use your car to get around. But you may like to know that many of our venues are in walking distance of each other, and cycling is also a great way to get about. A tractor and trailer service, kindly provided by Westons Cider, will be running all weekend carrying visitors between six of our venues. See map for route and stops. The service is free but donations will be welcome.



A brand new app that pulls together the rich history of cider production in Herefordshire since 1945 with films, archive footage, photography, oral histories and an up-to-date guide to all the ciders being made in the county today.

Look out for your Big Apple favourites – and come along to our evening screening in Much Marcle Memorial Hall on Saturday 8th October. See 'Special Events' inside.



## INFORMATION



If you want to know anything about what is going on during the weekend, then look out for information at each venue.



## MARCLE RIDGE COUNTRY

Another good reason to come to the Big Apple is simply to enjoy this wonderful stretch of countryside. Woodlands, soft fruit fields, hopyards and grazing pastures mix with the orchards to create a lovely farming patchwork. The slopes of the Marcle Ridge offer splendid views across to the Malvern Hills to the east, while Woolhope in the west lies within the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

## ...HEREFORDSHIRE AT ITS BEST

There is no better way to explore our deeply rural county than through its food and drink, and apples and cider are at its heart.

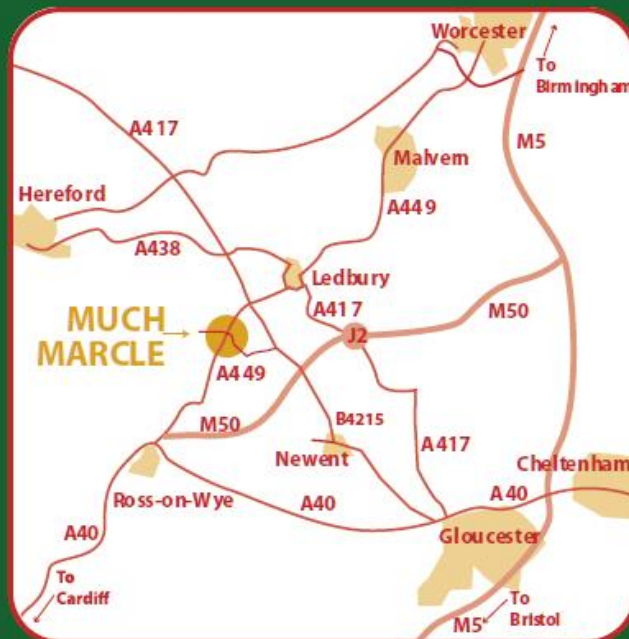
Herefordshire has more orchards than any other county and is the source of over half the UK's cider production.

For us the Marcle Ridge and the Big Apple are what Herefordshire is all about. Over the last 25 years, the number of craft food and drink producers of all kinds has truly blossomed in our local communities, providing a special experience for our visitors that is integral to the enjoyment of our rural heritage and landscape.



## HOW TO FIND US:

Much Marcle lies 5 miles from Ledbury on the A449 road to Ross-on-Wye, beyond the point where it crosses the road from Leominster to Newent at the Preston Cross roundabout. We are just 15 minutes from the M50 motorway, 2½ hours from London and 1¼ hours from South Wales and the West Midlands.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[www.bigapple.org.uk](http://www.bigapple.org.uk)

EMAIL - [secretary@bigapple.org.uk](mailto:secretary@bigapple.org.uk)

FIND - 'The Big Apple' on Facebook

or tweet us @TheBigAppleHfd

For programme information, phone Mrs. Jackie Denman on (01531) 670544. Our website includes details of accommodation in the area.



Scan for quick access to our website.

- APPLES - TALKS - TASTINGS - ORCHARDS - HARVEST -

# Harvestime



in and around  
**Much Marcle**



Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th October 2016

Enjoy this collection of rural events to enable you to share with us in our tradition of apple growing and cidermaking.



CIDER - PEARS - PERRY - CELEBRATION - PRODUCERS



- 1 Woodredding Farm** (GR640298)  
10.30am – 5pm  
Hands on experience pressing cider fruit and perry pears using our 200 year old wooden press. Enjoy tasting our cider and perry with sausage baps and Welsh cakes. Walk through the orchards. Our cider and perry, including popular Jack's Tipple and award winning Yarlinton Mill, will be on sale.
- 2 Avenue Cottage** (GR649321) (HR8 2NU)  
11am - 5pm  
Cottage perry-making, an abundance of traditional fruit and nut trees, and fruiting hedges of edible berries. Watch the family pressing all weekend. Perry sales.
- 3 Westons Cider** (GR648331) (HR8 2NQ)  
10am - 5pm  
Guided tours (£10.00/£4) 11am, 12.30pm, 2pm, 3.30pm. Play park (10-4). See our prize bull Ronaldo, Hereford FC's mascot! Orchard tearoom serving apple teas and other apple delights.
- 4 Much Marcle Memorial Hall** (GR658330)  
10.30am - 5pm  
Refreshments available all day. Morning coffee, ploughman's lunches. Apple teas – delicious! Produce stall.
- 5 St Bartholomew's Church** (GR657327)  
10:30am - 5pm  
**NB The church will be closed for a wedding at 1pm on Saturday – re-opening 2.30pm approx.**  
Tours of the bell tower from 11am (children must be accompanied by an adult). Donations welcome. Church open, including Kyrle Chapel and Blanche Mortimer tomb.



Woodredding Farm (approx 1 mile)



1 event venue  
tractor & trailer stops  
tractor & trailer route  
1/2 mile approx

## Special events Saturday 8th October

**From 10.30am to 5pm Orchard Printmaking** with artist/printmaker Anneliese Appleby. Have a go printing a card with images of apples and pears. Suitable for children from 3+yrs. No experience required. Gregg's Pit (Venue 8)

**From 11am to 5pm A Trio of Perry Pears** Sculptor Max Nowell will be working on the last of three stone perry pears, ultimately destined for the Yew Tree Inn at Peterstow. Hellens (Venue 6)

**From 11.30am Leominster Morris** at Westons (11.30am), Gregg's Pit (12.30pm), Hellens (3pm).

**12noon and 2.30pm Our edible hedges.** Guided tours of young fruit and nut groves and edible hedges. Avenue Cottage (Venue 2)

**2pm Bees and Blossom** Beekeeper and photographer Gregory Fisk will talk about honeybees and their contribution to the environment – with some tips on photographing bees. Haywain Barn, Hellens (Venue 6)

**3.30pm What's my Name?** Armed with the list of varieties, but in the absence of a planting plan, Marcher Apple Network specialist Mike Porter will talk through the process of identifying some of the apple trees planted outside the Great Barn at Hellens. Haywain Barn, Hellens (Venue 6)

**5pm Little Owls and Herefordshire Orchards.** Helen McSweeney-Atkins and Jemima Parry-Jones from the International Centre for Birds of Prey at Newent will talk about their project to encourage members of the declining Little Owl population to take up residence in Herefordshire orchards. Haywain Barn, Hellens (Venue 6)

**7pm Golden Fire.** Celebrate the history and success of Herefordshire cider with Golden Fire, a new documentary film from Rural Media celebrating the county's signature drink from 1945 plus archive footage from 1940s to 1970s. Q&A with local cider producers. Cider bar. £6.50 on the door, to include ploughman's and first drink. Much Marcle Memorial Hall (Venue 4)

## Special events Sunday 9th October

**10 for 10.30am Big Apple Bike Ride.** Market House, Ledbury at 10am, leave 10.30. Follow quiet country lanes, visiting cider producers and orchards. BYO picnic or enjoy Big Apple catering. Explore Big Apple, returning pm to Ledbury. Accompanied children welcome. Information 01531 635432.

**From 11am 'Uke Can't Be Serious'** will be popping up with their ukuleles throughout the day at different venues. No fixed schedule, so keep an ear out for them.

**11.30am Birds, Bugs & Plasticine Grubs** Guided walk with PhD student Charlotte Selvey, who will share research methods she has used to explore potential natural pest control services in orchards. Gregg's Pit (Venue 8)

**12 noon and 2.30pm Our Edible Hedges** – details as Saturday (Venue 2)

**2pm Bees and Beekeeping Through the Year** Talk by Colin Pavey, Bee Inspector and President of Herefordshire Beekeepers' Association. Haywain Barn, Hellens (Venue 6)

**3.30pm Perry Pears: Walk, Talk & Taste** Guided walk with James Marsden to learn about specific named varieties and taste the finished products made from the same varieties in 2015. Gregg's Pit (Venue 8).

**Hellens** (GR661333) (HR8 2LY)  
11am to 5pm  
Entry to Hellens site £2.00 (children free).  
**A Feast of Apples** – displays of apples, cider fruit and perry pears; tastings of dessert and culinary fruit; apple identification by Marcher Apple Network (on the day where possible; charge if retained for investigation).  
**Apple market** selling less usual varieties. Sales of apple juice, cider, perry, pork baps; apple trees (Saturday); Tools for Self Reliance Cymru. Traditional pressing of perry pears. **Tours** of the house (£9, concessions) at 1, 2 and 3pm.

**Awnells Farm** (GR658319) (HR8 2NW)  
11am - 5pm  
Guided walks through the orchards. Meet the traditional Hereford cattle. Rare Breeds Survival Trust. Horse-drawn Travelling Cider Press and Gloucestershire Ox Wagon once used for hauling cider fruit and perry pears. Spinning demonstrations. Exhibiting artists including Araminta Fogden, wildlife painter, photographer Hollie Crawshaw and sculptor Andrew Roach. Donations welcome.

**Gregg's Pit** (GR662323) (HR8 2NL)  
10.30am - 6pm  
Artisan cider & perry making in a traditional orchard. Meet the makers, their trees and fruit, watch the pressing, taste and buy sparkling/draught cider and perry. Ploughman's lunches by Truffles Delicatessen. No dogs please.

## Other apple & cider related venues:

- Much Marcle Village Shop** HR8 2LX  
Sat 7.30am to 6pm, Sun 8.45am to 12.30pm
- The Slip Tavern** HR8 2NG  
(now re-opened; meal service 2017)
- Pork and Two Veg Farm Shop**, Woolhope HR1 4QL  
Sat 10am to 6pm, Sun 10am to 2pm
- The Nest**, Little Verzons HR8 2PZ  
Sat 9am to 5.30pm, Sun 10.30am to 4pm
- Three Counties Cider Shop, Ledbury**, HR8 1BN  
Sat only, 10am to 5pm

## Lunches and suppers:

Our local pubs and restaurants will be serving dishes using apple and cider recipes. Booking advisable.

**In Much Marcle:**

Royal Oak	01531 660300
Scrumpy House*	01531 660626
Walwyn Arms	01531 660601

**Nearby:**

Butchers Arms**	01432 860281
Crown Inn	01432 860468
Trumpet Inn	01531 670277
The Nest*	01531 670816
Trumpet Corner*	01531 670082

\*daytime only \*\*not Sunday evening