

Welcome to Racehill Community Orchard

Racehill Community Orchard is an open space that anyone can enjoy; for dog-walking, rambling, picnics or enjoying nature. There are over 200 fruit trees and thousands of native hedgerow plants on this site.



▲ Early summer: a stunning view towards the Channel and the iconic mast on Whitehawk Hill

Orchards are a good way of producing food locally in a way that is

sustainable over many years. With careful selection of varieties and

using traditional storage methods, fresh locally grown apples can be

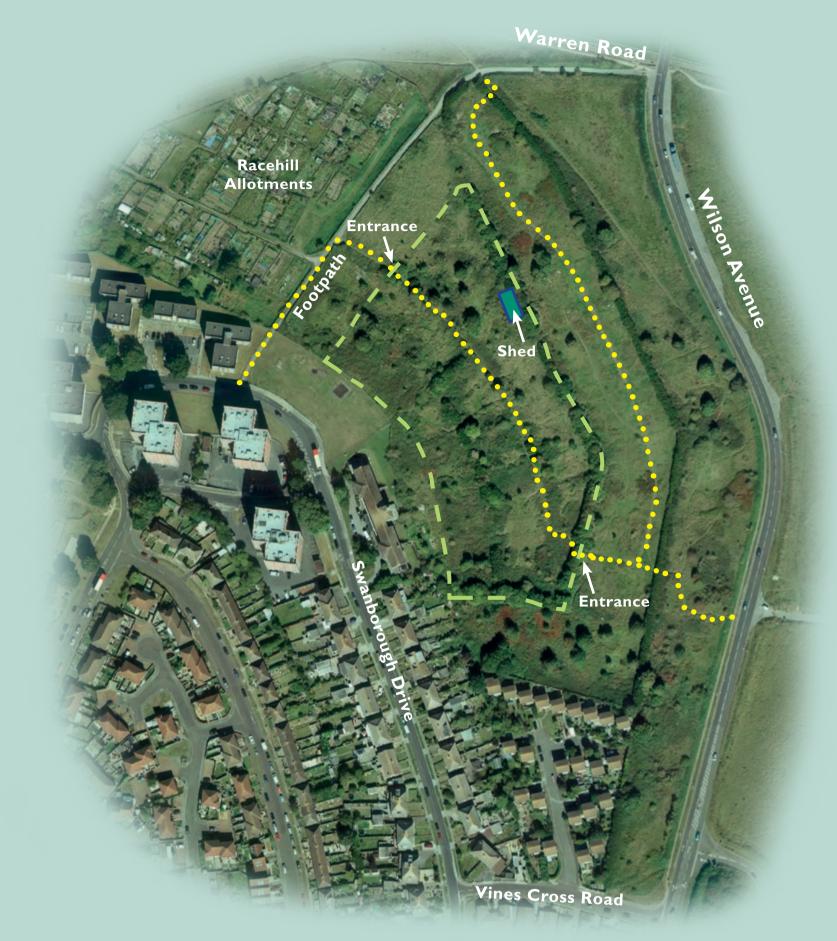
available from August to April. Techniques such as bottling can be

used to preserve apples for eating during the rest of the year.

Local and sustainable food



▲ Autumn is applepressing time!



— — — Orchard boundary
Informal pathways



▲ Late Spring: Rose-bay Willowherb— wild food and medicine



▲ Late summer sunset

The Orchard Year

- In April-May, pink or creamy white blossom appears on apple trees, and white on pear trees, prompting pollinating insects to emerge.
- Bees, bumblebees, hoverflies, butterflies and other insects visit the flowers for nectar. They brush against the pollen, which sticks to the bee or insect and a few tiny grains are then transported to the next flower the bee lands on.
- Fertilisation may then occur and a fruit begins to form at the base of the flower.
 Fruit ripens from August to October.

have grown on
Whitehawk Hill for up to
5,500 years. In 1929
archaeologists found traces
of pear tree in samples of
ancient charcoal excavated
from the Neolithic site
further along
the ridge.



RACEHILL

▲ A mulching we will go... ▶



▲ Mulching helps keep in moisture and suppress weeds



▲ Keeping warm in Winter!

Volunteering at the Orchard

Want to get fit, meet new friends, learn new skills? We hold regular volunteer days & events that anyone can join.

For more information visit: www.racehillorchard.org.uk
Or call: 07746 185927



▲ Planting the first tree



▲ Sometimes you just have to run for shelter and a hot cup of tea!



















