



ORCHARDS EAST
RECORDING CONSERVING CREATING

Essex Launch

Sunday 25th March, 10.00am – 3.30pm

**Marks Tey Village Hall, Old London Rd, Marks Tey,
Colchester CO6 1EJ and Crape Fruit Farm**

Orchards East is an exciting new environmental and cultural project covering six counties in the East of England – Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Landscape Group in the School of History at the University of East Anglia (UEA) is undertaking a three year project to research, conserve and promote the region's orchards, their legacy and their future. It builds on work by partner organisations including Suffolk Traditional Orchard Group, the East of England Apples and Orchards Project, and Essex Wildlife Trust.

A collaborative project working with existing county orchard groups, other interested organisations and orchard owners, **Orchards East** hopes to stimulate interest and engage a wide range of new volunteers in all things orchard. Amongst other things the project will:

- Survey and record the history of orchards across the region;
- Identify surviving sites and record new orchards;
- Research the history of fruit growing in the region;
- Undertake surveys of the biodiversity and wildlife of orchards;
- Help restore important old orchards and create new community orchards;
- Simply celebrate and enjoy orchards, past, present and future!



The launch of **Orchards East** in Essex will involve a morning of short presentations to explain more about the project and how to get involved. Presentations will include:

'Orchards; what they are & where they come from'
Paul Read, Chair, Suffolk Traditional Orchard Group

'Mapping Orchards in Essex'
Lorna Shaw, Essex Wildlife Trust

'Historical orchard research, an introduction'
Tom Williamson, Professor of Landscape History, UEA

'The origins of D'Arcy Spice'
Neil Wiffen, Historian and Hon. Ed *Essex Journal*

'Orchards East's activities and how to get involved'
Howard Jones, Orchards East Project Manager

The morning presentations will be followed by a guided tour of the orchards at Crapes Fruit Farm. This will be led by Andrew Tann, whose family have been growing fruit at the farm for three generations, and Paul Read.

Over lunch (please bring your own!), there will be an opportunity to talk, look at stands and displays and hopefully taste something fruity! Tea, coffee and juice provided.

This is a **FREE** event but booking is required.
If you would like to find out more about the project or come along to the launch,
please book a place by contacting:
gen@orchardseast.org.uk
or visit www.orchardseast.org.uk

