

Plumpton Apple Pressing

3 October 2020



Mike & Gail Murphy



The apple pressing team of Mark Haywood, Mike, Gail & Will Murphy, and Ruth Segal have successfully run the Plumpton apple pressing for 10 years. This was their last year and one to remember given the need to do the pressing in a Covid safe way. The volume of apples was less than previous years, given an earlier than normal harvest due to the hot weather in the summer and the high winds unexpectedly bringing down apples. Many came and had their apples turned into juice to enjoy.

The Bandstand became an excellent venue for the Apple Pressing to be in a Covid safe way this year. With the power on the Bandstand and a water hose from the Village Hall, the press was placed in the middle of the Bandstand. This enabled villagers to watch the pressing happen, from a good social distance. The Hospice Support Group were also on the Green, selling Festive raffle tickets and Christmas Cards.

The Village sends Mark, Mike, Gail, Will and Ruth a BIG thank you for running the Apple Press for so many years. The Apple Press has become one of the Village's traditions, since it was gained from a South Downs National Park grant, when the Park was opened back in 2010. The Apple Press is now stored in the Village Hall and Village Hall Manager, Jane Donovan, is the new contact point for future hires. Next Year the Plumpton apple pressing operation will be taken over by Plumpton Village Society and if you would like to help for an hour, the new team would appreciate your help. Please contact Martin Gilbert on 01273 890420 to volunteer, it is good fun and extremely rewarding. 2 October has been set for next year.