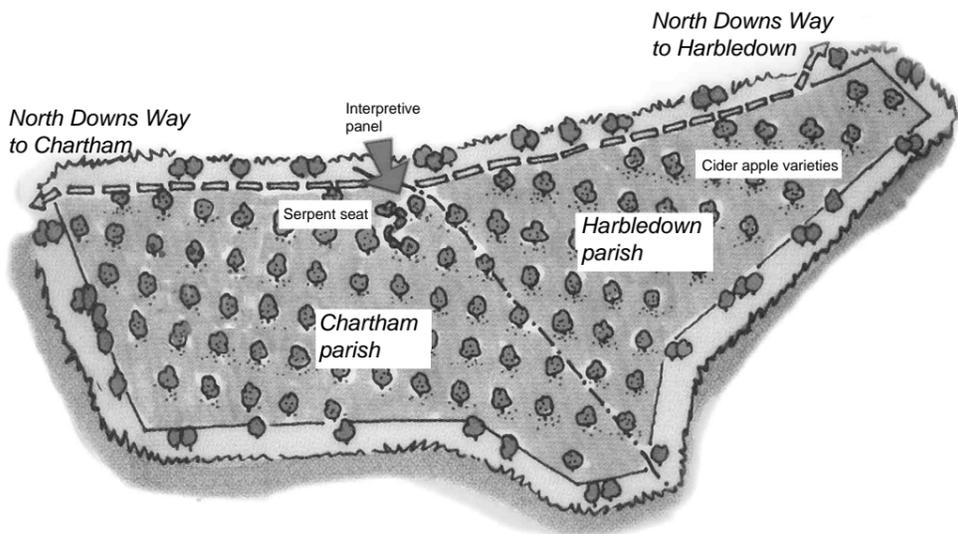


NO MAN'S ORCHARD

The name "No Man's" was traditionally given to land that straddled more than one parish – no one man's land. At No Man's Orchard this is supported by the fact that the parish boundary of Chartham and Harbledown runs across the centre of the site. The orchard was purchased by Chartham and Harbledown Parish Councils in 1996.



The orchard is a peaceful and inviting place in all seasons, as beautiful in blossom-time as when a fair apple crop is ripe. In winter enjoy the character of the gnarled old trunks and huge branches, many now showing their age and leaning heavily, their decline providing homes to an even greater wealth of life. When a tree reaches the end of its lifespan it is replaced with a new planting of suitable traditional variety.

A locally important site

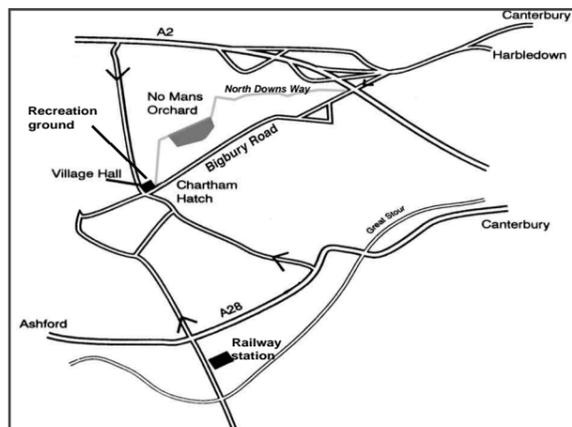
Canterbury City Council has designated the orchard a Local Nature Reserve in recognition of its value for wildlife and to encourage its educational use. This is the first orchard in the UK to be designated as such! The ten acre site is also a Local Wildlife Site designated by the Kent Wildlife Trust, mainly because of the number of lichens and mosses found on the fruit trees.

How to find No Man's Orchard

The orchard can be reached from the village of Chartham Hatch, which lies 0.5 km to the west, by walking along the North Downs Way. From Harbledown, 2.5 km to the east, access is also along the North Downs Way, from Faulkners Lane.

By Car

From Canterbury follow the A28 towards Ashford. Take the right turn towards Chartham Hatch. Follow the road to a crossroads with the village hall in front of you. Turn right. The orchard can be accessed from the recreation ground 100m past the village hall. Alternatively take the road from Harbledown to Chartham Hatch. There is limited parking in the village. Please do not park at the village hall as it is in constant use.



By Bus

The 667 bus is an infrequent service between Canterbury and Chartham Hatch. Contact Poynters for details. The 620 bus goes between Canterbury and Chartham (2.6 km away) approximately every 30 mins. Contact Stagecoach for details.

By Train

There are regular trains, approximately every hour, between Canterbury and Chartham, and between Ashford and Chartham. Chartham railway station is 2.7km (1.7 miles) from Chartham Hatch village hall. Contact National Rail Enquiries for details.

How to find out more

Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership, Sidelands Farm, Wye, Ashford TN25 5DQ 01233 813307 kentishstour@kent.gov.uk www.kentishstour.org.uk

Chartham Parish Council 01227 738110
Harbledown Parish Council 05601 454363

This leaflet has been produced by the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership, and Chartham and Harbledown Parish Councils.



Orchards - traditional and modern

Traditional orchards with old fruit trees are rapidly disappearing in Kent. They are less profitable than modern commercial orchards, but nevertheless they provide important habitats for wildlife. The trees have very large spreading crowns and are far taller than in modern commercial orchards, which have been specially cultivated for ease of picking.



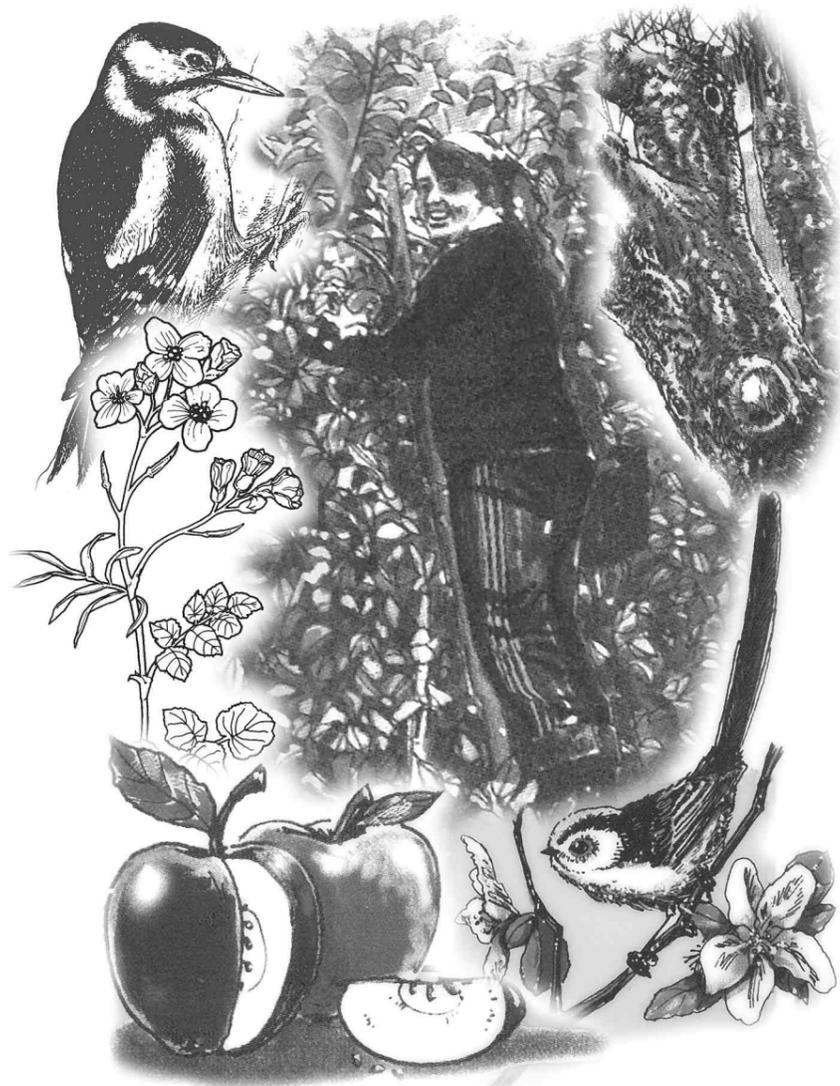
No Man's Orchard

A modern commercial orchard



Apple trees

The orchard, covering eight acres of mainly Bramley apple trees, was planted in 1947. Six cider apple varieties at the eastern end were planted in 1996 on a further two acres. In subsequent years traditional apple varieties including Flower of Kent and Kentish Fillbasket have been planted to replace Bramley trees that have died. This work was carried out by volunteers from the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership and local villagers, and continues as needed.



NO MAN'S COMMUNITY ORCHARD

local nature reserve

Chartham and Harbledown Parish Councils