

NOVEMBER 2021

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Looking south-west from St Mary's Church tower.

Photo credit : Roland Cherry

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WOT2Grow COMMUNITY ORCHARD



The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness is upon us and has surely made October the start of Autumn. And with the beautiful sun on many days it has been a wonderful start to the season.

The soft fruit has finished and the top fruit has come into its own with good crops of stone fruit - damsons, greengages and plums - followed by apples and four



Conference Pears

varieties of pears. The apples in particular have been good and a second batch has been sent for pressing and pasteurising.

Autumn maintenance involves a lot of clearing of the soft fruit canes and tying in the new canes which will produce next years crop. The autumn raspberries will be left until February before cutting to the ground to allow the new fruiting canes to emerge.

The grass has continued to grow and the mowers have been at work and hoping for "just one more cut"! Of course that depends on the weather!! Maintaining the hedges and margins is also an urgent task and the removal of the now dead and seeded wildflower strips needs to be done before winter sets in.

Always lots to do so why not join us and get the benefits of working out doors and sharing in our harvest!! Contacts are below.

Some car parking is available at the Community Orchard located just behind the allotments on the Shenington Road in Tysoe. Contacts: Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080)

www.wot2grow.co.uk

DEFENDING TERRITORIES IN THE NATURAL WORLD

Plants and animals generally live in one type of environment, or habitat, because the conditions suit them well and they can access all the resources they need. They tend to stay there for as long as the conditions to which they are adapted remain. If the habitat changes, they may move, if they can, or they may simply die out. Climate change is altering the distribution of many species.

Most species have little control over their habitat, or the resources within it. However, some animal species are territorial and defend their home range against other members of the same species or occasionally against another species. This is usually through warning behaviour or sometimes physical aggression. The reason for such protective behaviour may be to acquire and protect food supplies, nesting sites, mating areas, or to attract a mate. The ultimate 'aim' is to increase their 'fitness', which is basically their ability to survive and raise young. Those of you who have been watching the BBC's 'The Mating Game' will have seen what extraordinary lengths some species go to when finding a mate.

One of the best local examples of a species which defends its territory is the robin. It is one of the few British birds that hold a territory throughout the year. In summer a mated pair will defend their territory, while in winter, territories are defended by individual birds. On average, breeding territories are about 0.5 ha in area, while winter territories are around half this size. The actual size depends on the quality of habitat and the density of birds in the area. Territory boundaries are fluid, changing as circumstances change. The robin's red breast is used to defend its territory and not for courtship – a patch of red triggers territorial behaviour and, for example, robins may attack stuffed robins or even tufts of red feathers!

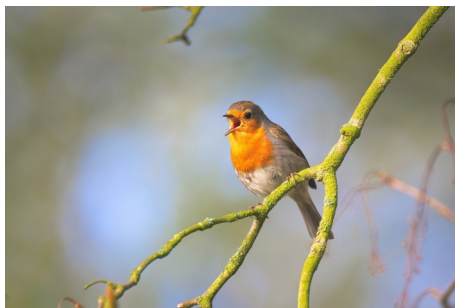


Image by Evgeni Tcherkasski, Pixabay

Rosemary Collier

COP 26 COMING SOON!

The UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow on 31 October – 12 November 2021



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

UNITING THE WORLD TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE.

The aim of the conference is to deliver green recoveries across the globe that bring in good jobs, trillions in investment and groundbreaking new technology. And we must. To keep the temperature of the planet under control – limiting its increase to 1.5 degrees - the science dictates that by the second half of the century, we should be producing less carbon than we take out of the atmosphere. This is what reaching 'net zero' means.

The world is moving towards a low-carbon future. Clean energy, like wind and solar, is now the cheapest source of electricity in most countries; many of the world's car makers are shifting to make only electric and hybrid models; countries around the world are starting important work to protect and restore nature; cities, states and regions across the world are also committing to reduce emissions to zero.

For those countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change who are already seeing their homes disappear under water and their crops decimated by drought - COP26 simply can't be another talking shop. This meeting needs to be decisive. Whether future generations look back at this time with admiration or despair, depends entirely on our ability to seize this moment. Let's seize it together.

Extract from COP26 Foreward
<https://ukcop26.org/>

ALOK SHARMA
COP PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE

