

PROJECT PROPOSAL: JUICE EXTRACTION EQUIPMENT TO MAXIMISE HARVEST YIELDS

Background - The Opportunity

PACT was formed in recognition of the environmental challenges posed by the advent of global warming, the arrival of peak oil, and how these might affect the way individuals might wish to approach the future as part of a self-reliant community.

As the 2010 fruit harvest has shown, a lot of fruit can be unwillingly and unwittingly wasted by not having to hand facilities to preserve it. A certain amount can be frozen, and - given sufficient space - apples and pears can be stored traditionally, but nevertheless it is a time consuming process.

Large quantities of fruit and time shortage call for dramatic action. Cider and perry are not merely tasty alcoholic beverages but effective ways of storing the goodness stored in apples and pears. Juice extraction by steaming also provides home produced goodness and tasty drinks and jellies throughout the year at modest cost and with simple equipment.



Project Proposal

To provide capital equipment which can then be loaned out to individuals and groups locally wishing to extract juice from fruit.

Benefits / Deliverables

Key benefits of this project would include:

- ✓ encouragement of community involvement
- ✓ provide focus for harvesting fruit
- ✓ provide opportunities for co-operation, exchange of ideas, knowledge, expertise, tools etc.
- ✓ focus attention on what fruits are available and what they can produce
- ✓ provide "Harvest Supper" opportunities for cementing relationships between users and user groups

Projected Costs

2 apple mills/ fruit crushers @ £245 each	(£490)
2 x 20 litre apple presses @ £345 each	(£690)
4 Mehu Liisa steam juicers @ £139 each	(£556)
2 stainless steel fruit pasturisers @ £195 each	(£390)
Total: £2,126	



Potential Partners

Gardeners
Fruit growers
Foragers
Orchard groups, including NCOG
Possibly farm shops & other retailers of local produce

PACT (Penrith Action for Community Transition) is a Transition Town group formed in Cumbria during 2008, and is made up of an enthusiastic group of local volunteers.

PACT is working to promote a coordinated local community response to the twin challenges of peak oil and climate change, aiming to help develop a far greater resilience for Penrith and the surrounding Eden Valley.