

April 2009

## What have we been up to?

Mostly we've been digging. And seeding. And planting.

Planting herbs, trees, vegetables in and around Todmorden.

Seeding ideas too – among the powers that be, among our schoolchildren, in each other.

**Let's aim to be self-sufficient in food by 2018, starting now.**



## Planting orchards

We've been planting community orchards. Nearly 200 trees are already in the ground, and more to come. Over 100 volunteers turned out on a cold February day to join in at Harley Wood. Ta for funding from Community Fund for Calderdale and Calderdale MBC – and to Community Payback for their help.



## Schools set sail for food

We've talked to every single school in Todmorden. They're all planting boats of veg, and reclaiming land, and digging and planting. A bit of money from HBOS Community Foundation for tools and seeds helped.

Parents meet every month in the Golden Lion, next on 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 7:30.

Tod High School is at the centre of exciting developments: food-growing, a future centre for learning about land & the environment, and our fish/food centre – if the lottery coughs up!

## Fired up for action

Did you know the Fire Service has agreed to plant apple trees on their land?

We've been talking to every public body in sight about their land. And getting results.

- The garden at Ferney Lee **old people's home** has been planted with veg and fruit
- Local **churches** are planning to donate land to growing
- The new **health centre** and the **railway station** are set for Incredible fruit and herbs
- Pennine Housing and Calderdale Council are actively helping us find land



Latest news on the website:  
[www.incredible-edible-todmorden.co.uk](http://www.incredible-edible-todmorden.co.uk)

Contact ☎ 01706 815407 or email  
[iet\\_hothouse@btinternet.com](mailto:iet_hothouse@btinternet.com)

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## Churches join in

More than 400 people joined in an Incredible Edible harvest festival at the Unitarian Church last autumn. Now our local churches are starting food-growing projects of their own.

## Spreading the word

Radio, television, newspapers and bloggers all over the world have been talking about us. Culinary campaigner Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall endorsed IET on his River Cottage TV series. The Times, the Guardian and the Telegraph have all featured our work. Our website gets 150 hits per day.

*...the Incredible Edible Todmorden initiative has blossomed, transforming the town's landscape and becoming a catalyst for other communities keen to produce their own food.*

*Yorkshire Post, 16 December 2008*

## Inspiration

Other towns like Okehampton – and Incredible Edible Huddersfield – are following our example. Most of all, people in Tod feel inspired to get digging, growing, exchanging.

## Every egg matters

We want far more of the eggs we buy to be produced locally. Keep chickens - or find out where your eggs come from. We've



researched how to do it, and where to buy 'em. We launched our campaign in February: Sunday 19 April brings the Eggstraordinary Kids Spring Festival, 12:00 on at the Unitarian Church. Contact Beryl on 07505816911 or email [nmt78@talktalk.net](mailto:nmt78@talktalk.net) for more info.

## Incredible Edible Pennine

Social landlord Pennine have got right alongside us. Every tenant can now have a starter grow-your-own pack. And the association is encouraging community orchards and growing on spare land.

## Much more to come

With more public support every month, many more initiatives are under way:

- the **Incredible Local Food Fair** (May 8th/9<sup>th</sup>) and the **Tod Show** will feature our latest produce
- we're working with **local farmers** and **training** providers for local jobs
- the Egg and other campaigns go on
- **STOP PRESS: THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION HAS PICKED US AS A BREAKTHROUGH PROJECT TO SHOW OTHERS HOW TO MAKE LOCAL FOOD HAPPEN**