Planting Fruit Trees at Highbury

We have planted 10 apple and 5 pear trees cloned from the Chamberlain Highbury collection held at Four Seasons. These are all from the original estate and many are from the Chamberlain pergola in particular. We plan to recreate the fruit pergola, modelled upon the one that Chamberlain installed at Four Seasons (which was once a part of the Highbury Kitchen Gardens). The fruit trees were grafted in 2019 by volunteers with guidance from Rob Tilling (Lets Grow Together/Fruit & Nut Village) and are nearly all at least 120- year- old varieties.

DNA analyses have shown the varieties of the trees so far planted here to be:

Standard Apples:

Beauty of Bath (1887); Gascoyne's Scarlet (1871)

Devonshire Quarrenden (2 specimens) (pre 1676);Sturmer Pippin(1827)

Trained Apples:

Devonshire Quarrenden (pre 1676); Ribston Pippin (1708)

Herring's Pippin (1908); Bismarck (approx. 1870)

(plus one as yet unidentified variety)

Trained Pears:

Beurre Diel (approx., 1800); Thompsons (approx. 1820)

Williams Bon-Chretien (1814); Petite Marguerite (1862)

(plus one as yet unconfirmed variety)

Volunteers from the Chamberlain Highbury Trust, Lets Grow Together, Fruit & Nut village and Highbury Park Friends planted the trees. To help settle the trees in the first year, they will need a regular bucket of water or two at least once a week and even more often if the weather is hot.

April 2022