

Quenington Village Hall Apple Day 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015

## **SEED SAVING AND SWAPPING**

Bring along your saved seeds or leftover seed packets to swap with other local gardeners!

Saving seeds is not difficult but not all plants will grow true; brassicas for example are notorious for cross-breeding with surrounding plants including the prevalent oil seed rape, so are probably not worth saving; beet and cucurbits also cross-pollinate. However, many flower seeds such as calendula and hollyhock can be saved and herbs such as basil, dill and parsley; peas, beans and lettuce are also fairly straightforward although you still may get unexpected varieties. Take seeds from strong, healthy, non-diseased plants. It's best if they dry on the bush (e.g. beans) or if you need to pick before wet weather sets in, leave to dry in an airy place until brittle. Tomatoes, which self-pollinate, should be left to go quite mushy in a jar of water for 3 days, sieved off and dried. Put them in a clean dry envelope, labelled and if you're very organised you can put a photo or sketch of the plant on the outside.

Remember! Seeds from your F1 hybrid plants cannot be used.

For more information see:

<http://www.realseeds.co.uk/seedsavinginfo.html>