



25 February 2009 For Immediate Use

Local Flavours Festival launch this evening 25 February in Oxfordshire

The **Local Flavours Festival**, to be launched this evening Wednesday 25 February, will be the first to celebrate and promote food and drink produced in the three counties of Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire.

Run by BBO Food Group CIC, the Festival will be a series of events organised by farmers, food and drink producers, restaurants, pubs, farm shops, farmers' markets and visitor attractions throughout September.

This evening's **Local Flavours Festival** Supper at the Exeter Hall, Kidlington from 5pm to 7pm launches the Festival with just a taste of the variety of delicious food and drink available in Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire.

Guests at the Supper include farmers and people who make products such as bread, wine, cheese and preserves, chefs, hotel proprietors, catering managers from visitor attractions, farm shop and delicatessen managers and the local media.

During the Supper BBO Food Group CIC Director Tamara Schiopu will explain: "This is a very exciting project because it is the first time that all the food and drink producers, plus all the food and drink outlets including restaurants, pubs and hotels, farm shops, farmers' markets and delis, will be celebrating the exceptional produce from these three counties."

The **Local Flavours Festival** will take place during September, when a wide range of events and activities will be held where people can find out more about where food comes from and how they can cook it to perfection. Restaurants and pubs will have Local Flavours themed menus featuring ingredients produced locally. Visitor attractions will host local food events, and there will be tours around farms, orchards, breweries and vineyards. Full details on www.local-flavours.net

"We will launch the first Local Flavours Food and Drink Awards to enable people to nominate their favourite producers, farms shops, farmers' markets and places to eat and drink local produce," says Tamara.

Producers featured at this evening's Supper are:

Brightwell Vineyard, Shillingford, Oxfordshire	Rumsey's Hand-Made Chocolates, Wendover, Buckinghamshire
Copas Traditional Turkeys, Cookham, Berkshire	Shaken Oak Products, Hailey, Oxfordshire
Doves Farm Foods, Hungerford, Berkshire	The Cake Makers, Watlington, Oxfordshire
Emmett's Farm Shop, Little Marlow, Buckinghamshire	The Oxford Cheese Company with their own cheeses, also Crudges Cheese (Oxon), Two Hoots Cheese (Berks) and Simon Weaver Organic Dairy (Glos)
Foxbury Farm, Brize Norton, Oxfordshire	Tolhurst Organic Produce, Whitchurch on Thames, Oxfordshire
Old Farmhouse Bakery, Steventon, Oxfordshire	Waterperry Gardens, Waterperry, Oxfordshire
Pinks Syrups, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire	Well Preserved, East Hanney, Oxfordshire

Example of a **Local Flavours Festival** event at Fallowfields Country House Hotel, Kingston Bagpuize, Oxfordshire.

With orchards, a kitchen garden and pastures where native and rare breed pigs and cattle are reared and chickens run free-range, Fallowfields Country House Hotel plans to open its doors during the **Local Flavours Festival** and run hands-on events for people to learn about baking bread using local flour, how to make sausages and bacon, have a go at pressing fruit juices, and see the journey our Sunday roast takes from pasture to plate.

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Tamara Schiopu, BBO Food Group CIC is available for interview
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