



Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes



The Food Groups in Berks, Bucks, & MK and Oxfordshire work as a federation - BBO Food Groups - and are supported by the South East England Development Agency and by various local authorities and sponsors.

Monthly Update from Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes and Oxfordshire (BBO) Food Group

May 19, 2008

NUMBER 11

Dear Food Group Members:

This is the monthly update from your Local Food Group.

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Please note that our Monthly Updates are now posted on the News page of our website www.local-food.net
If you no longer wish to be part of this mailing list, or if you receive this message twice, please email localfood@brookes.ac.uk

Member's Networking Event

On **Wednesday 25th June** at **Oxford Brookes University** from **5 to 7pm** there will be a free member's session on **Web Design and Maintenance** with a presentation from Chris Cussens, the Food Group's web master. Members will have access university computers during the evening for practical hands on experience. Miles Rackliff from Blackberry Barn will also be talking about **Mail Ordering**. This evening has been organised in response to members' requests and will of course give the opportunity for members to network amongst themselves as well.

For further information and to book your place please email Wendy at membership@local-food.net or telephone 01865 484116

Further events for networking sessions are being arranged throughout the BBO region for 2008 and we hope to issue a calendar of events soon. In the meantime any suggestions for topics of interest to be featured will be gratefully received.

Chef's Tours

Following the success of previous chef's tours run by the BBO Food Group a third is being run on **Tuesday 10th June** in the Amersham/ High Wycombe/ South Bucks area.

It is part of a larger project "Fresh Skills for Chefs" - a training programme of master classes to encourage chefs to develop new dishes using more local seasonal produce on their menus. The programme is supported by Tourism South East, and South East England Development Agency.

If you are part of the catering team at your business why not join us for a fun day out to discover what is in your local area, and have someone else prepare a fabulous lunch of local produce for you! Register your interest with the BBO Food Group: membership@local-food.net

Or if you would like to be involved in future tours with a group of interested chefs visiting your business please email Wendy at membership@local-food.net

Member's Website Reminder

A reminder to all members to do a link from their business website to ours at www.local-food.net
Ours already automatically does a link to member's websites.

News

Tesco unveiled its strategy to sell £400m of local produce this year, with five new local buying offices, reflecting growth and mainstreaming of local, fair trade and free range.

Tesco Cheese Challenge: details about the challenge and information on how to enter with profiles of past winners can be found at <http://www.tescocheese.com/> or for more information speak to:

Philippa Anderson
Local Sourcing Marketing Manager (South East)
Tel: 07515 195375

Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE)

Promotional leaflet will be sent out to all members during May.

The electronic version of this 8 page leaflet can be obtained from the website at www.seeda.co.uk/rdpe.

Progress with selection of Leader applications - SEEDA received 16 Leader applications by the end of January. These are in the process of being appraised and it is anticipated the outcome of the selection will be announced in May. A map showing the Leader areas can be obtained by clicking [here](#) - but if this does not work go to www.seeda.co.uk/rdpe and click on "Guidance for farmers, horticulturalists and foresters", then scroll down the page to find the link to the map.

Expressions of interest for RDPE support total 88. Of course not all of these will turn into full applications and the level of grant awards will be dependent on the project assessment process

New expressions of interest particularly in the areas of the following are still being looked for

- Adding value to primary produce and processing of food
- Renewable energy
- Forestry
- Farm diversification
- Collaboration in the development of new products and markets that involves businesses from across supply chains i.e. farmers, processors, retailers working together.

Please contact Helen Dallas on 01483 484200 if you want to discuss ideas.

Training & Events

Events

British Cheese Festival 27th Sept to 5th Oct at Cardiff Castle, Wales featuring the Trade Day & Cheese Market. Also Food From Britain Market, Local Heroes & Rare Essentials Markets, Cook & Book Shop and the Cardiff Arms serving real ale, Perry, cider and English & Welsh Wine.

The Trade Day held on the Friday 26th Sept and is keen to attract more retail buyers to ensure the trade day is effective for non-cheese exhibitors. Consumer days Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th Sept. For details on the trade and consumer days, exhibitors etc please contact:
Cardiff Council Events

Communications / Cyfathrebu
Room 422 County Hall / Yst 422 Neuadd y Sir
Cardiff / Caerdydd, CF10 4UW

Heather Brown
Event Development Manager / Rheolwr Datblygu Digwyddiadau
Tel / Ffôn: 029 2087 3914 Fax / Ffacs: 029 2087 3382
E-mail / E-bost: h.a.brown@cardiff.gov.uk

The British Cheese Awards consists of 3 events: The Judging, Awards Dinner and British Cheese Week.
The Judging Friday 11th July at Kingham, Oxfordshire
Awards Dinner Friday 26th September @ Cardiff Millennium Stadium
The Awards Dinner will be held on Friday night, after the Trade Day.
For details please contact:

Eclectic Events Ltd
Old Woolman's House
Hastings Hill
Churchill, OX7 6NA
T:01608 659 325
Juliet Harbutt harbutt@thecheeseweb.com
Vicki Childe cheese-2@thecheeseweb.com

Food Group Members are invited to be involved in this year's **Lord Mayor's Parade & Picnic** in Oxford on **Monday, 26 May**. The theme for this year's event is 'Celebrating Oxford – Past & Present'.

A Lord Mayor's 'Picnic Style' event will then take place from 12 noon to 6pm in Hinksey Park. The idea is the visitors buy their food & drink from stall holders in Hinksey Park and make picnic for themselves on the spot. So, if you have on offer food & drink for a picnic, you are welcome to trade at this event.

Please contact organisers for application form ASAP

Andy Kneebone, Events Officer, Oxford City Council
Phone 01865 467284
Mobile 07889071720
Fax 01865 467233
Email akneebone@oxford.gov.uk

Sulgrave Food Show takes place on **28th and 29th June**, to be sponsored by AGA. Exhibitor. Spaces are booking up well. So if interested contact Caroline Houghton at Caroline@stonehouse-events.co.uk ASAP



Food & Drink
from the South East

Contact Us

BBO Food Groups

Tamara Schiopu, Manager

Wendy Hole, Membership Co-ordinator

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Oxford, OX3 0BP

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