



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

July 7th, 2008

NUMBER 13

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

Meet the Buyer with Tesco 'Local Sourcing' team

16th July at the FAI farm in Oxford (The Field Station, Wytham, Oxford OX2 8QJ)

The aim is to meet Tesco representatives and talk about supplying your products into your Tesco stores. If you believe your business is at the right stage and you have the drive and energy to get into Tesco, this is for you.

With regards to what products Tesco are looking for – anything really, as long as you would like to supply Tesco – Tesco would love to see you. bring your samples, raw or ready to use, and prepare a short story about your business.

Terms & conditions, quality assurance, distribution – you'll talk about this with them. Tesco do not have a 'standard' with local suppliers as products can be so diverse.

If you would like to attend, or if you'd like to discuss this matter in more detail with me, please do not hesitate to email me at Localfood@brookes.ac.uk or call my mobile 07795 334474

Members Networking Event

Apologies for the cancellation of the members networking event on Wednesday 25th June at Oxford Brookes University due to a technical electrical problem. This has now been rectified and we are delighted to reschedule the evening for **Wednesday 30th July, 5pm to 7pm** at Oxford Brookes University with presentations on Web Design and Maintenance from Chris Cussens and Mail Ordering from Andy Tee of Blackberry Barn

Drinks and nibbles. An opportunity to chat, socialise and network with other members. For further information and to book your place please email Wendy at membership@local-food.net or telephone 01865 484116

Trade Development

County Shows

There is still time to book stands at the following shows with

Special Rates for Full Members of BBO Food Group

Bucks County Show, Thursday 28 August

Thame and Oxfordshire County Show, Thursday 18 September

Royal County of Berkshire Show, Saturday – Sunday 20 - 21 September

For further information and booking forms contact Tamara at localfood@brookes.ac.uk

Bucks Chefs Tour

A very successful tour of local member producers around the Amersham/ Beaconsfield/ High Wycombe area was organised for a group of local chefs on 10th June. They were able to meet the producers, see how the animals were raised, sample the products and finally have a delicious lunch featuring many of them at The Old Queen's Head in Penn. This will all help to encourage the chefs to source their ingredients locally and encourage sales for our member producers. The outcomes of previous tours have been very successful in terms of establishing relationships with local producers and increasing their sales to the catering and hospitality industry and this one will also be closely monitored to determine its success.

Funding for this is from Tourism South East as part of the Fresh Skills for Chefs project funded by the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA)

Our thanks go to those producers involved in hosting the chefs:

Chiltern Farm Food, Tims Dairy, The Fine Beef Company and Chiltern Natural Foods



Very happy pigs wallowing at Chiltern Farm Food

The next Chefs Tour is around the West Berks area on 5th August. If you would like to have a group of invited chefs visit your site please contact Wendy at membership@local-food.net or telephone 01865 484116.

Training & Events

BRC Update Seminar

The latest version of the **BRC Global Standard for Food Safety, Version 5**, was launched on Tuesday 1 July.

The BRC Global Standard Food was developed to help the food industry meet the requirements of the EU General Product Safety Directive and the UK Food Safety Act. It is invaluable to retailers and brand owners as it provides evidence that they demonstrate due diligence. It is now regarded as the benchmark for best practice across the industry and most UK retailers will only consider business with suppliers who have gained BRC certification. The Standard holds benefits not only to the retail industry but also food manufacturers, importers, caterers, ingredient suppliers and the food service industry. In line with the launch of the BRC Global Standard for Food Safety Cert ID is holding a **BRC Update Seminar on the 10th July**.

If this is of interest please call Kirsty Chadwick on 01827 874 849. Delegates will receive a 10% discount on their next BRC with Cert ID.

Financial support for new farmers' markets

The Bucks, Berks and Oxon Food Group will support the creation of three brand new Farmers' Markets located within the area, during July 2008 – March 2009.

Applications are welcome from BBO Food Group Members, TVFMC, Community and Voluntary Sector organisations, Parish and Town Councils.

Each of the three new Farmers' Markets will be located ideally in one of the 3 counties and will meet current FARMA standards for Farmers' Markets:

1. Locally produced food & drink
2. Principal producers attending the stall, or their representatives
3. Primary, own produce sold
4. Secondary, own produce processed and sold
5. Policy and information available about the rules of the Market

For details and guidance, please visit www.farma.org.uk

BBO Food Groups financial support will be up to £1,000 for each of the 3 markets and will cover such costs as PR, signs, printing, FARMA membership fee for the first year, equipment. An interim (3 months after launch) and final report (6 months) on the Market progress will be required from Market organisers.

Costed proposals are welcome by 1 August 2008, on a first come first served basis. Please email them at localfood@brookes.ac.uk. With any questions use the same email address or telephone Tamara 01865 484116 Please forward this invitation to any relevant organisations.

Events

Fallowfields Food Festival 25 August

The event will run from 12 noon until 6pm and the Farmers' Market area will be set up in a field alongside the hotel, directly in front of the hotel car park. There is no charge for stalls. Electricity is unavailable in the field so stall-holders will need to bring a generator for power.

For more information and to book a place contact

Lisa Mather Sales and Marketing Manager

Fallowfields Restaurant & Country House Hotel 01865 820416

email irina@fallowfields.com website www.fallowfields.com

British Food Fortnight 20th September - 5th October 2008

The biggest national celebration of the diverse and delicious range of food that Britain produces. Retail promotions during previous BFFs have proved that the event has a serious impact on sales: Retailers taking part increase sales by up to 34% per store as a direct result of the event - an increase that has been sustained two years running. Retailers are invited to run British food promotions during the event, to offer tastings and promotions to highlight new products, to encourage producers to come into stores to meet customers and to decorate stores with bunting and British Food Fortnight posters. All the resources retailers need to take part are on the event's website www.britishfoodfortnight.co.uk

Local Food Fair at Ascot Racecourse Saturday 11 October, to complement the final Flat racing meeting of the season, Willmott Dixon Day, would like BBO Food Group members to be involved. The market will be located around the Bandstand at the Racecourse overlooked by the fantastic new Grandstand.

Stallholder benefits

- Two exhibitor wrist bands allowing them access to the General Admission area of the racecourse
- Two free General Admission tickets for friends and family.
- Free race card.
- Packed lunch and hot drinks provided throughout the day, free of charge.

Please note that food and drink products for instant consumption cannot be sold on the day. However, free samples are permissible

Fee per 3m x 3m space is £25 with free parking for one vehicle. This will cover the cost of a market stall umbrella which will be provided. You will need to provide your own stall, table and

chairs.

If you are interested in taking a stall or for further information please contact Diane Harker, Food Fair Co-ordinator, on 01628 670272 or e-mail: diane.harker@tiscali.co.uk by 30th July 2008. Stall fees will be required by 1st September 2008.



Food & Drink
from the South East

Contact Us

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