



## Monthly Update

from

Berkshire,

Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes

and Oxfordshire

(BBO) Food Group Community Interest Company (CIC)

October 2009

NUMBER 28

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 posted on the News page of our website [www.local-food.net](http://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 [info@local-food.net](mailto:info@local-food.net)

### Local Flavours Festival

As the Food Group's first *Local Flavours* Festival draws to a close we are sending out questionnaires to organisers of the 180 events that were held throughout September linking into the festival. Their responses will help determine the future of the next festival.

The Festival was organised by BBO Food Group CIC, supported by local authorities in the 3 counties and SEEDA. Festival Partners and Sponsors were Archant Publishing, Ascot Racecourse, Business Link Milton Keynes, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, Fallowfields Country House and Hotel, Oxfordshire Rural Community Council, Reading UK CIC The National Trust, and Tourism South East.

The wide ranging variety of events during the Festival included farm and garden tours, cookery courses, vineyard walks and wine tasting, *Local Flavours* in the county shows, *Local Flavours* menus in pubs and restaurants, new and established farmers markets celebrating the festival, chocolate making and tasting, apple days and a beer festival.

The *Local Flavours* Festival programme included special offers and discounts for food and drink at several restaurants, farm shops and festival events, as well as places to stay.

Please do visit the dedicated website [www.local-flavours.net](http://www.local-flavours.net) to see photographs in the photo gallery of many of the events that were held in September including the 3 county shows and many farmers markets.

### We have moved

Our new address is:

BBO Food Group CIC  
Speedwell House  
Speedwell Street  
Oxford  
OX1 1NE

07795 334474 Tamara  
07920 501866 Wendy

[info@local-food.net](mailto:info@local-food.net) for Tamara  
[membership@local-food.net](mailto:membership@local-food.net) for Wendy

[www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)

### **Awards**

Congratulations to members **Doves Farm** who's Whole Wheat Digestives won the Soil Association Organic Food Award 2009 which was announced on 14 September in the category 'Cakes, Biscuits, Confectionary and Desserts.'

The judges' comments included:

"Clean, deep nutty flavour."

"Crunchy yummy."

"Real, good quality ingredients. I can really taste the grain."

Earlier in the year Doves Farm Organic Gluten Free Pasta was runner-up for Best New Organic Food Product award in the Natural and Organic Products Industry Awards 2009.

Also congratulations to members **Clare's Organics**, finalists in the 2009 Waitrose "Small Producer" Awards.

Have you won any awards recently? Do let us know so that we can publicise your achievements and record all the awards our members have gained which show what fantastic products you produce. Contact Wendy at [membership@local-food.net](mailto:membership@local-food.net) with the details.

### **Countryside Alliance Awards**

These are open to nominations for:

Local Food Award, Village Shop Award, Rural Enterprise Award, Daily Telegraph Traditional Business Award, Rural Hero of 2009.

Nominations will be taken on line at

[www.countrysideallianceawards.co.uk](http://www.countrysideallianceawards.co.uk) until 19<sup>th</sup> October

### **Events**

Remember to check the Events Page on our website at [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net) for all the opportunities for sales in 2009.

### **Local and Sustainable Fresh Milk and Dairy Supply - Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Oct 2009**

Ardingly, West Sussex, RH17 6TL 9am until lunchtime

A visit to 2 contrasting dairy farms and presentations by dairy farming experts & processors, exploring dairy farming issues. Followed by a panel debate – a key part of the success of the day will be your involvement.

Register on line asap

[www.southeastenglandfoodanddrink.co.uk/DairyEvent](http://www.southeastenglandfoodanddrink.co.uk/DairyEvent)

**Ascot Racecourse 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Food Fair on Saturday 10th October**

Details from Diane Harker 01628 670272

[diane.harker@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:diane.harker@tiscali.co.uk)

**Access to land for food growing groups in urban areas  
Event – Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Oct – RISC Building Reading**

Sustain's Local Action on Food Network and The Women's Environmental Network (WEN) are jointly organising this event for community food groups and individuals from across the country that are facing challenges in obtaining land for sustainable food production. This event will allow attendees to share skills and experience on how, through policy and practice, access to land can be improved across the UK.

The day will include:

- Talks from experts and keynote speaker Rosie Boycott, chair of the London Food Board.
- Lunch and an exclusive tour of the RISC edible roof garden.
- An afternoon programme of issue specific workshops and sessions including: planning constraints, site management, project sustainability and more.

Rates: £15 for Local Action on Food/ WEN/ RISC members/ £25 Non members.

Booking for this event is essential. Please visit [www.localactiononfood.org](http://www.localactiononfood.org) or email [polly@sustainweb.org](mailto:polly@sustainweb.org) for more information or to book a place.

Local Action on Food  
c/o Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming  
94 White Lion Street  
London, N1 9PF  
Tel: 020 7837 1228  
Fax: 020 7837 1141  
Email: [polly@sustainweb.org](mailto:polly@sustainweb.org) Web: [www.localactiononfood.org](http://www.localactiononfood.org)

**The Oxfordshire Big Climate Event Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup>,  
9.30am – 6pm, Oxford Town Hall**

Organized by the Community Action Group Project and Climate Xchange. Supported by the Oxfordshire Climate Action Network (OxCAN)

A diverse range of workshops, the Big Climate Event aims to bring together key people from Oxfordshire to share their experiences, and to give practical help and advice about some of the more innovative projects and cutting edge ways of tackling climate change on the ground.

The objectives of the event are to:

- Meet other groups, learn from each other, strengthen your work and share best practice.
- Skill share of specific ideas to involve your community in carbon and waste reduction Inspiration, ideas and support for starting up a new community group
- Showcasing agencies and organisations that can provide help and support.

Cost: £5 and includes locally sourced lunch and refreshments (subsidised places are available on request).

To book contact Simon

Kenton | CAG Project Manager **resourcefutures** c/o Waste Management Group| Oxfordshire County Council Speedwell House Oxford OX1 1NE

Mob 07793 647190|Tel +44 (0)1865 815871| Fax +44 (0)1865 815787| [www.caqoxfordshire.org.uk](http://www.caqoxfordshire.org.uk)

**The Rise of Real Bread: Changing Britain's Daily Loaf Conference St Anne's College Oxford 14 November 2009 10am-5pm.**

This one day conference brings together growers, bakers, millers, consumers and campaigners to discuss how to substitute mass-produced bread with locally produced all-natural bread - better for our communities and our palates. Chaired by Sheila Dillon (Radio 4's The Food Programme), speakers include:

Felicity Lawrence (Special Correspondent, The Guardian, author of *Not on the Label*); Andrew Whitley (Bread Matters and co-founder of The Real Bread Campaign); John Letts (archeobotanist, thatcher and founder of The Oxford Bread Group); Colin Tudge (biologist and writer, founder of The Campaign for Real Farming); Professor Martin Wolfe (Research Director, The Organic Research Centre and Bee Wilson (Sunday Telegraph food columnist, author of *Swindled*). Also speaking are our local food heroes – including The Handmade Bakery and the Natural Bread Company.

To register go to [www.landshare.org/events](http://www.landshare.org/events)

Cost £38 including lunch, tea and coffee. There will be an evening event at Freud café for those who want to pursue 'bread matters'.

This conference has been organised by Landshare CIC in cooperation with the Real Bread Campaign and the Oxford Bread Group.

**Fresh Ideas Network Event Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 10 am to**

### **4pm 15 Hatfields London Southbank**

For Community food projects across the south-east. For full details and registration please see events page at [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)

### **Tourism South East (BBO Group) Networking Event Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 12-2pm Heythrop House, nr Chipping Norton**

TSE would like to invite BBO Food Group members to this Christmas networking event. It is particularly aimed at B&B's and smaller attractions.

Full details and booking form can be found on the events page at [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)

### **Training**

#### **'Reduce your costs by using more sustainable cuts of meat'**

Training Day at Rushall Manor, Bradfield, Berks from 10am to 3pm on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009. Full details and booking form can be found in events section on [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)

### **Staff Training**

Full details of courses and booking forms for the training courses at **Vale Training** are available at the training page at [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net) for winter 2009 to spring 2010.



### **Contact Us**

BBO Food Group CIC

Tamara Schiopu, Manager

Wendy Hole, Membership Co-ordinator

Speedwell House

Oxford, OX1 1NE

[info@local-food.net](mailto:info@local-food.net), [membership@local-food.net](mailto:membership@local-food.net), [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)

For previous newsletter please visit [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)