SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND DRINK GROUP (SFADG) update – June 2024

1. FARM AND NATURE WALKS AND TALKS

Quoins Organic Vineyard Little Ashley.

Monday 8th July, 6-8pm.

Join us for a grand tour and wine tastings.

There is also a delightful wildflower meadow and Liz Stephens, Chair of CFB Biodiversity Group, will help with native plant identification.

The visit is free although a contribution to wine consumption will be appreciated.

To ensure a place contact jillmhollings@gmail.com.

2. Avonleigh Orchards Farm Tours

Monday 10th June and Saturday 15th June (part of Great Big Green Week).

The farm mixes traditional orcharding with modern permaculture techniques. It aims to produce healthy organic food in a nature-friendly fashion.

See BoA Town Council website here for details and to book a place.

To receive the email list of what fruit and veg are available for weekly collection in season contact veggrower@yahoo.com.

3. Now's the Time to Make Food Fair

Sue Pritchard, Chief Executive of the Food, Farming & Countryside Commission, on why politicians should listen closely to this unprecedented consensus from citizens, farmers, environment and business leaders – read **here**.

The Hope Farm Statement

Food and farming in the UK are at a critical inflection point.

"Over the past year, a group of leaders from farming, business, civil society, research, and government has met to reflect on how we can play our full part in leading the transition. We ourselves are inspired by the citizens involved in the UK-wide Food Conversation, who are clear in their call for governments across the UK and businesses to act for fairer, greener, healthier food and farming. And we know that pivoting from the current system to a new one will require clear and courageous leadership; strategically aligned policies; and supportive regulation.

Together, we are calling for the next UK Government as a matter of urgent national priority – starting in its first 100 days – to implement a bold national food and farming strategy for the UK, drawing on the wealth of evidence available, including in the National Food Strategy."

Read their Six Core Recommendations **here**.

4. Farm Carbon Toolkit

Financial and climate impact of regenerative farming practices - see **here**.

The Dung Beetle Conference 2024 – see **here**.

Biodiverse farming; making agro-ecology work for farmers, public and animal health and the environment. [Dung beetles are fascinating, ecologically important and there numbers have declined worryingly globally.]

Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th June 2024

Yeo Valley Holt Farm, Bath Road, Blagdon, Bristol BS40 7SQ

5. New collective TALC [The Agroecology Learning Collective] aims to enhance agroecological knowledge sharing across the UK

Sustain has joined forces with prominent food and farming organisations in support of a new central knowledge-sharing platform for agroecological farming practices - read more **here**.

Ros Edwards