# Climate Friendly Bradford on Avon

# SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND DRINK GROUP (SFADG)

# Update – May 2026

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1. **Next SFADG meeting Monday 8th June. All welcome.**
   **'Weeds: the problem in perspective'**
   **Speaker: Richard Cripps** – retired lecturer in horticulture at Lackham College
   You're invited to bring a weed for identification.
   Some of you will remember Richard's very engaging talk on fruit tree pruning at the Swan in 2021.
   We'll also be discussing how to progress our Action Plan, with a focus on project 2 and an update on project 3 (see here).
   Venue: Quaker Meeting House
   Time: 7.30-9.30pm
2. **Great Chalfield event** https://www.wiltshirewildlife.org/events/2026-06-07-open-farm-sunday-great-chalfield
   Location Great Chalfield, Atworth, SN12 8NH
   Sunday 7 June 11 to 4pm
   Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and the National Trust are inviting visitors to discover how the land is being managed at Great Chalfield.
   The event offers a unique opportunity for the public to explore how the farm is being managed in ways that support both food and nature that Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and the National Trust have been delivering through the new partnership at Great Chalfield. The event shares some of the ways the farm is evolving to support wildlife alongside food production.
   Hands on activities and guided experiences for all ages. Booking sheet available on arrival

3. **Community Farming Festival Day at Avonleigh Orchards**



– a fun educational day aimed at all ages

**Sat 23 May 9.30-4pm**

See here and entry elsewhere in newsletter.

4. **'World's first growing dome powered by landfill gas' being launched in Wiltshire**

I was amazed to read recently about the 'World's first growing dome powered by landfill gas' being launched in Wiltshire.

The website Swindon Link describes "A radical new approach to food production, capable of transforming landfill sites into low carbon, affordable fruit and vegetable production hubs has been unveiled by Sustain Wiltshire in Royal Wootton Bassett…. In a world-first, landfill gas tapped from Crapper and Sons' landfill site will be turned into heat, power and CO2, to create perfect year-round growing conditions within giant, positively pressured, inflated growing domes located on the Wiltshire landfill site.

Capable of producing 10 tonnes of fruit and vegetables per growing dome, Sustain Wiltshire aims to supply up to 80% of all fruit and vegetable requirements for Royal Wootton Basset, Purton and Brinkworth, with future expansion planned to cover Malmesbury."

https://swindonlink.com/news/worlds-first/landfill/

This is a hydroponic system, which is how a great deal, particularly of our salads and soft fruit are produced these days, fast grown and in a sterile environment, sometimes in vertical tower systems.

The Sustain Wiltshire project is a vision with huge positives. Although, I do have a sense that I would like my food to be grown in the soil more slowly for uptake of complex nutrients. Flavour and texture are key attributes that I am looking for in my food. Interesting times. and texture are key attributes that I am looking for in my food. Interesting times.

5. **'Is 50% procurement target still on the menu?'**

Feb 20th 2026 https://foodservicefootprint.com/50-procurement-target-uk/

More than 18 months since Labour came to power a standout manifesto pledge for half of public sector food to be local or sustainable has yet to materialise.

Nick Hughes

"We will set a target for half of all food purchased across the public sector to be locally produced or certified to higher environmental standards."

It may not have been a pledge that captured the nation's imagination in Labour's 2024 election manifesto, but it certainly carried resonance for those working to deliver food systems change across the public, private and third sectors.

6. **‘Regenerative agriculture sows success in Kenya’** From *Positive News.*
   Robin Eveleigh Feb 23rd 2026 https://www.positive.news/society/regenerative-agriculture-sows-success-in-kenya/ . (SFT 25th Feb)
   Regenerative agriculture sows success in Kenya
   More than 70% of participating farmers in Kenya’s Embu and Tharaka Nithi counties have adopted methods such as intercropping, agro-forestry, crop rotation and use of farmyard manure. They’re reporting up to 81% higher yields and 92% improvement in water retention.

**ENJOY GOOD FOOD AND DRINK**

If you wish to be on the SFADG circulation list, please contact Ros Edwards at climatechampions@gmail.com