

EXETER LOCAL FOOD INITIATIVES

These are some of the initiatives run by local people who are committed to the local food movement – if you have concerns after watching Food, Inc. why not get involved?

ALLOTMENTS - For all allotment advice and vegetable growing **Contact Ayesha on 01271 327087** at South West Counties Allotments Association CIC, website - www.allotmentssouthwest.org.uk

EXETER COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE - Would you like to be involved in a community agriculture project? Learn about growing and have a supply of organic vegetables? Exeter Community Agriculture is now planning its second exciting season. We are a diverse group of local people renting 4 acres of organic land in Shillingford. We are working together to grow organic food, share skills, and reconnect ourselves with the natural environment. We are an evolving organisation and we welcome new members.

For more info see www.exetercommunityagriculture.co.uk or contact info@exetercommunityagriculture.co.uk

EXETER FARMERS' MARKET Shoppers keen on sampling West Country foods are able to try and buy a wide range of produce at the Exeter Farmers Market. The market has become a vibrant and enjoyable place to buy and sell, giving the producer a chance to meet and talk directly to the consumer of the produce that they grow or make. Every Thursday 9am – 2pm in South Street/ Fore Street www.exeter.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=9082

EXETER LOCAL FOOD - Plans for a new food based social enterprise for Exeter are firming up! Known as the 'Food Hub' at the moment, this is an exciting initiative being developed by a Transition Exeter 'working group' combining a shop selling local & organic produce with an artisan bakery and a cafe in Exeter city centre. It will be also be a vibrant social space for people to meet and take part in all sorts of creative food related activities. Watch this space for Spring and Summer time developments: keep an eye on the Transition Exeter website for news and how you can get involved!! **Contact Sarah Collier** by email foodiesarah@googlemail.com

Schools across the country are signing up to transform their food culture with the **FOOD FOR LIFE PARTNERSHIP**. Young people in these schools are growing, cooking and eating school meals with fresh, seasonal and local and organic food and visiting the farms where their food is produced, acquiring the knowledge and practical skills to take control of how they eat and its impact on their health, animal welfare and the climate. Eleven schools in Exeter have already joined the Food for Life Partnership including flagship school Ladysmith Infant School. Enrol at www.foodforlife.org.uk.

Transition Exeter has a **FOOD STRATEGY GROUP** because food is a critical aspect of any low carbon future. The group works to encourage organisations which shape policy and action around 'local food', to take a step change towards the goal of more sustainable food being produced, processed and consumed. The group recently organized a groundbreaking workshop, bringing together forty movers and shakers of the local food world, to explore ways to achieve that step change. Transition Exeter promoted the need for a local food strategy that sets tough objectives and makes organisations 'join up' behind those objectives. **Visit** www.transitionexeter.org.uk

HARVEST is a new project run by local charity Exeter Community Initiatives, and aims to support local people to grow their own food. The project offers a range of activities for the complete beginner through to the 'seasoned' grower and includes container gardening, garden sharing and community garden development. We provide support, advice and training through a team of Project Workers and volunteers. **Contact** the Harvest Project Workers on **01392 205800** or email info@eci.org.uk. Office address 14 York Road, Exeter EX4 6BA.

LOVE LOCAL FOOD run a mobile local food shop on 3 days around Exeter. It sells a good range of seasonal food and drink. Most of our produce is fresh, organic and local. Other products that are not available locally such as tea are Fair traded and ethically sourced. Love Local Food believes in the need for education if more people are going to buy or produce local food, so they run workshops on food preparation, lead walks around farms, create events for families and more! contact@lovelocalfood.org.uk, www.lovelocalfood.org.uk

ORGANIC ARTS run an arts and education centre at West Town Farm an organic livestock farm in Ide (3 miles from the centre of Exeter) or will bring the farm to you if you can't get to the farm. We exist to educate the public about rural and environmental issues, which includes food! We help run Open Days at West Town (www.westtownfarm.co.uk); and run educational visits at West Town and The Barton, an organic vegetable farm (www.shillingfordorganics.co.uk). Both farms sell their produce direct to the public. We also have a Community Garden, a pottery and other activities. info@organicarts.org.uk, **01392 430378**, www.organicarts.org.uk

ST THOMAS ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION: Exeter City has more than 1300 allotments across the city, helping people to grow fruit and vegetables as close to home as possible. St Thomas Allotments Association plans to hold its second 'Families Food & Allotment Lunch Day' on Guys & Hylton Allotments, in St Thomas, in early July. This programmes of workshops is open to anyone wanting to start growing their own food. For further information call **01392 211554** and leave a message with your contact details.