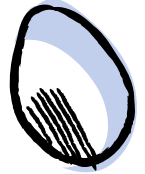
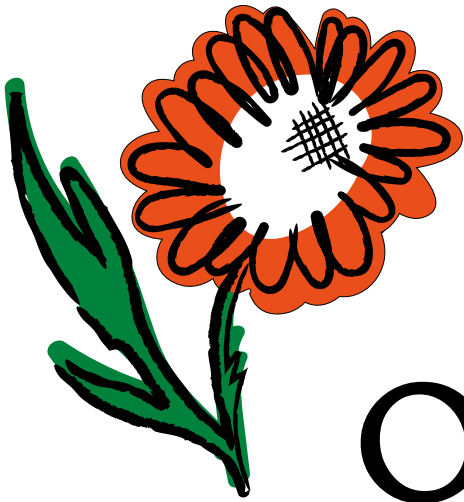
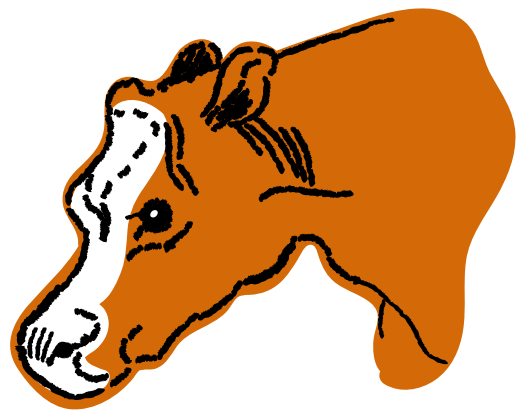


OXFORD REAL FARMING CONFERENCE 2025

Welcome to the  
16<sup>th</sup> annual



# Oxford Real Farming Conference



Let's transform  
our food and farming  
system together

SHARE YOUR HIGHLIGHTS! #ORFC25

## C

This year we have a programme bursting with life as new people and organisations join us and new concerns call out to be raised. Yet the basic message of the conference remains: the message that challenged us to start doing something in the first place. That it is eminently possible to feed everyone well, without destroying the biosphere, and without cruelty, if only we farm, and support those who farm, with those aims in mind.

I remember in the early days as we grew to need more than one venue, one of our team had the great idea that we should gradually take over all of Oxford, so that along with the OFC, for two whole days Oxford became one big farming gathering.

Well in a sense we're moving towards that vision. We have now

added more venues to those we had last year, making nine in total. And our new venues are more spacious, and in a cluster around the Town Hall, where the farming sessions and the food and entertainment are concentrated. And I'm assured as indeed this programme illustrates (see map) that the maximum distance between any two venues is six minutes walk, with most being within a couple of minutes of each other.

So there we have it. A growing movement for change that extends a warm welcome for all. One that offers us all hope and indeed not a little inspiration at the start of this new year.

**Ruth West, Co-Founder,  
Oxford Real Farming Conference**

## WHAT TO EXPECT AT ORFC 2025

The ORFC is the annual gathering of the UK's real food and farming movement. As always, the conference is **programmed by you**, brought together from hundreds of brilliant proposals we receive in response to our open Call for Submissions with the help of our programme partners. We're committed to exploring the most urgent, innovative and illuminating topics this movement is interested in.

2025 will be **our most interactive ORFC ever!** With plenty of workshops inviting us all to share our ideas, concerns, and learn from each other. While we're taking a break from sticking our hands into the soil this week, we'll be filling up on practical take-home advice to apply on the farm. And we'll also be exploring some of the most challenging issues from climate change and farming's reliance on fossil fuels, to fighting for land justice, anti-fascism, and anti-imperialism in our food systems. We're looking forward to deepening our approach to Listening to the Land too, where we'll be exploring connections with place, land-based rituals, and moving towards more-than-human perspectives as stewards of landscapes. You can find out more about our different programme streams on page 4.

## EVER-GROWING

You heard it from Ruth, we've taken over all of central Oxford at last! We've got our new Speakers' Hall at Wesley Memorial Church, alongside sessions across 18 other spaces. Everything is within a few minutes walk, and we've created a handy fold-out map to help you find your way around. We've listened to you and found more large session venues for this year, with ten rooms where more than a hundred people can gather at a time. If you have a particular session you really want to join, though, leave plenty of time to get there. Sessions will always fill up, but come with an open mind: if you can't get into one room, head to another and be prepared to learn something unexpected!

## GOING LIVE

Because we want our online audience to be able to join in as much of the fun as possible, we've expanded our livestream offering too: we're now streaming from **six rooms** at the conference this year.

## ALWAYS INCLUSIVE

The conference is for everyone. It is a collective space for sharing and being with one another in a respectful way, whilst also recognising that people come from unique backgrounds and are affected differently and to varying degrees by structural oppression.

During sessions, feel free to make yourself quietly comfortable as you need, or to take yourself out of a session if you need

a break. Find more details on accessibility, quiet spaces, and our nursing room on pages 4 - 5. Send feedback to [info@orfc.org.uk](mailto:info@orfc.org.uk) or via the delegate survey sent after the conference.

## OUR PARTNERS, FUNDERS AND SPONSORS

We are fortunate to work with the following **programme partners** in 2025: Animate Earth, Conscious Food Systems Alliance (CoFSA), Emergent Generation, La Via Campesina, Landworkers' Alliance, Pasture for Life, Shared Assets, Seeding Reparations, Soil Association, Solidarity Across Land Trades (SALT), and Sustain. Thank you to our **funders and sponsors**: A Team Foundation, Be the Earth Foundation, Cotswold Seeds, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, FarmED, Farming the Future, Growing Good, Organic Herb Trading, Necessity, Riverford, Sheepdrove Trust, and Triodos. Also, our thanks to all our **supporters** who purchased supporter tickets this year, helping to make the conference more affordable for all.

We are grateful to work with the following media partners: Farmerama Radio, the Feminist Food Journal, Fuel to Fork Podcast and Rooted Magazine. Also, we're pleased to partner with Good Food Oxfordshire to bring together a delicious array of lunch and dinner options from local food vendors.

## THE CONFERENCE TEAM

The ORFC is brought together by our talented team, which includes: Andy Dibben (Farm Practice Advisor), Brittany Oakes (Operations Manager), Caitlin Osborne (Event Coordinator), Carla Sarrouy Kay (Programme Coordinator), Dora Taylor (Justice Programme Coordinator), Felix Hewitt (Communications Coordinator), Francesca Price (Executive Director), Hester van Hensbergen (Conference Manager), Lucy Harding (Communications Manager), and Ruth West (Co-Founder and Advisor).

The team has been joined for the in-person conference by Ben Brown, Emilia Jane Wolfe, Emma Burnett, Irma Allen, and Jade Neville (Venue Coordinators); Han Smith (Conference Assistant); Peter Lefort (Tech Support Lead); Dan Hussey, Henry Owen, and Marta Lomza (Tech Support); Jonny Tomlinson (Stage Manager); Sarah Weber (Well-being Coordinator); Brett Price (ORFC Videographer); Hugh Warwick and Ella Brolly (ORFC Photographers).

For our online conference, the team is joined by Helen Freudenberg (Operations Coordinator), Lucy Fisher (Conference Assistant), and Erin Maguire (Tech Support).

The ORFC is made possible with the incredible support of our in-person and online volunteers. Please treat them with respect and thank them for their work.

The ORFC is a programme of the **Real Farming Trust**, a charity that connects and supports people trying to transform our food system from the grassroots up. To find out about the rest of our work, visit [realfarming.org](http://realfarming.org).

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

## REGISTRATION AND MORE

When you arrive in Oxford, you'll need to register and pick up your lanyard and badge. For **Registration**, head to the **Speakers' Hall** at **Wesley Memorial Church**, conveniently located on the way from the train station to the town centre. We will be open from 5.30 to 9pm on Wednesday, and from 8am onwards on Thursday. If you're arriving on Wednesday, once you've registered, head straight over to the **Main Hall** at the **Town Hall** for dinner, drinks, music and a chance to meet our exhibitors, from 6 till 10pm.

On Thursday morning, we'll be gathering for our **Opening Plenary** in the **Main Hall**, with inspiring words from movement leaders and the brilliant Hot Poets, before diving into **the sessions**.

Here are a few of the themes you'll find in our programming as you explore:

**FARM PRACTICE:** There'll be lots of great take-home advice, deep dives into the success and challenges of individual farms, and practical discussions on topics such as natural flood management, activating soil enzymes, pest control, and biodiversity and livestock. You'll find these sessions throughout the conference, but start with checking out what's on in the **Assembly Room, Council Chamber, Court Room, and St Aldate's Room in the Town Hall**. The farm practice strand is organised in collaboration with the Soil Association and Pasture for Life.

**FOOD AND FARM POLICY:** For everyone impassioned by the politics of food and farming, we've selected a brilliant series of policy focused sessions with Sustain and the Soil Association. What are the practical political tools that can be used to achieve transformation? Come along to sessions **in the Cheng Building and Speaker's Hall** looking at all facets of the just transition: from creative ways to fund it, to moving beyond intensive livestock; and for discussions on public farmland, pesticide policies, ecocide law, agri-misinformation in elections, ELMs, and more.

**JUSTICE STRAND:** The Justice Strand, hosted by Solidarity Across Land Trades (SALT), Shared Assets and Seeding Reparations, invites those from marginal perspectives to connect, share knowledge and empower each other. Sessions centre on equity, solidarity and collaboration, and explore topics such as: land access, reparations, abolition, health justice, racial justice, queer liberation, neurodiversity, alternative economies, migration, workers' rights and anti-oppression. Justice Strand sessions are held across multiple spaces in the **Story Museum, Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, and Town Hall**.

**LANDWORKERS ALLIANCE AND LA VIA CAMPESINA:** La Via Campesina (LVC) is a global grassroots 'movement of movements' representing over 200 million peasants, farmers, pastoralists, fisherfolk and Indigenous people across 81 different countries. The Landworkers' Alliance is a member organisation of LVC, and works to build the movement for agroecology and food sovereignty across all four nations of the UK. This year, the LWA x LVC programme, held across spaces in the **Story Museum and Town Hall**, will bring together landworkers, young people, trade unionists, and activists from the UK and internationally to explore what it means to be a social movement and why building a social movement is key to achieving agroecology.

**LISTENING TO THE LAND:** this strand explores what it means to have a more reciprocal relationship with Nature and how a

heart-based approach to our work might support and progress the transformation of our food and farming system. Working with partners, the Conscious Food Systems Alliance (CoFSA) and Animate Earth, you will find various sessions seeded through the programme that explore traditional or indigenous knowledge systems, farming practices based on an intuitive relationship with the land to establish a more embodied connection to landscape. Alongside talks, there will be opportunities for delegates to talk about their experience of this connection and to meet others who share similar belief systems.

**YOUTH:** In partnership with Emergent Generation, La Via Campesina, and FLAME, we're hosting youth-oriented sessions across the conference this year. On Thursday, head to **the Hall** at the United Reform Church for discussion of youth movement collaboration, intergenerational discussions, art exhibitions, and relaxed networking. Later, there'll be a relaxed roundtable on inspiring more youth to join activist movements in **the Blue Room** at the Tavern, before an evening drinks at **the café in the Cheng Building** where newcomers passionate about the politics and practice of food and farming will have a chance to meet movement leaders.

**PLUS SOCIALS AND ENTERTAINMENT:** We've got plenty of social opportunities in the programme this year - from landmatching lunchtime gatherings to evening socials for our LGBTQIA+ community, food and farming newcomers, and journalists. We're excited to be hosting wonderful poetry and storytelling performances in the evenings, and in the Main Hall, we're looking forward to dancing to Don Kipper and Songs from the Porch.

**BOOKS:** Mostly Books, from Abingdon, will be hosting our bookshop in the Main Hall this year, with a wide selection of books from our conference speakers and on relevant topics. They'll be hosting some book signings too, keep an eye out for the timings on the blackboard.

**AND LOTS MORE:** The best way to find out what we've got to offer is by digging into the programme schedule yourself. Finding everything listed on pages 6 - 28. Then look up the speakers and facilitators on pages 30 - 55.

When it comes to getting to sessions, please be aware that space in each of the rooms is limited. If you are keen to see a particular session, we recommend you get there early to secure a seat. We have around 150 sessions programmed across our nineteen spaces.

**Use the fold-out map, or ask us:** if you don't know how to get to your next session or would like some help navigating the programme, ask one of our volunteers in the orange tops.

## ACCESSIBILITY

A large print version of the full programme can be viewed at registration in Wesley Memorial Methodist Church and at the info desk in the Town Hall, and a large print version of the conference schedule can be found posted in the Main Hall of the Town Hall.

All venues are fully accessible, except for the Blue Room in St Aldate's Tavern, which unfortunately does not have lift access. Hearing loops are available in the Main Hall, Assembly Room and Old Library (Town Hall), Speakers Hall (Wesley Memorial Church), Cheng Building and Ship Street (Jesus College), The Sanctuary (St Columba's) and in the Woodshed (Story Museum).

We'll be reserving a few **accessible seats** in each session space for those with accessibility needs. If that's you, please feel free to make your way to one of the reserved seats. If these seats aren't filled by the start of the session, they will be released for use by all delegates.

We welcome JAM (Just a Minute) card holders. To find out more, see [www.jamcard.org](http://www.jamcard.org).

If there is anything we can help with, please let us know.

## QUIET ROOM

If you need space to get away from the crowds and recharge in silence, a quiet room is available in the Plowman Room of the Town Hall. Please respect this as a space for peaceful relaxation. If you'd like somewhere to relax, work, or chat with friends, you can head to the café area on the Second Floor of the Cheng Building.

## NURSING ROOM

The Triangle Room in the Story Museum is available for anyone who needs to care for the needs of a child or baby.

## CLOAK ROOM

We have unticketed, unsupervised cloak rooms available in the foyer of the Cheng Building and in Ship Street. Belongings are left in these rooms at your own risk and **must be collected by 5:30pm on Friday**.

On Thursday evening, there will be hangers in the Assembly Room at the Town Hall where you are free to leave your coats or bags at your own risk. Please collect them before you leave the Town Hall **by 9.45pm on Thursday night**.

## BRINGING CONSCIOUSNESS TO YOUR CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

This guide from our partner organisation, the Conscious Food Systems Alliance (CoFSA), provides suggestions to help you bring more awareness and intention to your conference.

**Presence:** Be fully present, listen to the presentations, engage mindfully in conversations, pay attention to the environment.  
**Deep Listening:** Practise deep listening, with your ears and mind, but also your heart and senses. Listen with compassion and curiosity.  
**Meaning and purpose:** Remember why you chose to participate in this event. Why is this important for you? Keep in mind that the more you give, the more you will receive.

**Energy:** To engage fully, it is important to feel energised. Try to get enough sleep, drink water often, try to eat healthily, and take time to energise with deep breathing, light exercise.

**Care and compassion:** The organisers have put a lot of care towards organising the conference, and you can contribute too by being attentive to those around you who may need some assistance.

**Joy and gratitude:** Have fun, enjoy the moment! A wonderful way of being joyful is to keep an open heart and pay attention to all the big and little moments that make this conference a special experience.

## LUNCHES AND DINNERS

Thanks to Good Food Oxfordshire, we've got a wonderful selection of local food stalls in the Main Hall at the Town Hall. Lunch will be available from 12.30 to 1.45pm on Thursday and Friday, and dinners from 6 to 9pm on Wednesday, and 5:30 to 9pm on Thursday.

**Damascus Rose Kitchen:** traditional Middle Eastern mezze boxes and wraps, all vegetarian.

**Ellie's Kitchen:** Greek savoury pies with winter organic salad and tzatziki- authentically traditional, homemade, seasonal and organic.

**Organic Deli:** lunch boxes containing organic salads, mixed grains, fresh vegetables and vegetarian curry.

**Real Catering Oxford:** banh mi baguettes with slow roast pork or

teriyaki mushrooms, pickled vegetables, and spicy mayo; hearty minestrone with sourdough and pesto.

**Vaults & Garden Café:** delicious organic dishes made fresh daily, with vegetarian and vegan options.

In addition, there are ticketed sit-down dinners on Thursday night at the Old Fire Station and Chickpea. These tickets sell out early, but if you are interested in attending and haven't already secured a ticket, please check at the registration desk as there may still be a few on offer.

There are also cafés downstairs at the Town Hall and off the courtyard of the Story Museum. Present your conference badge for 10% off your food and drink order.

## TEA AND COFFEE

Tea and coffee are available free of charge in the Main Hall and in the foyer of the Cheng Building, but you will need to provide your own cup. If you don't have one, ORFC mugs and tumblers are for sale near the registration desk in Wesley Memorial Church and in the Town Hall. Keep them with you at all times!

## BAR

Join us at the Old Tree Brewery bar on Wednesday and Thursday night in the Main Hall for delicious beers, wine, and kombucha from Old Tree Brewery, a social enterprise micro-fermentary using traditional brewing techniques. On Thursday night, the bar in the foyer of the Story Museum will be open for those attending evening sessions and socials.

## PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO

There will be photography and filming at the conference. Please let us know at registration if you do not want to be photographed or filmed.

Sessions in the Speakers' Hall at Wesley Memorial Church; the Main Hall, the Assembly Room and the Old Library in the Oxford Town Hall; the Woodshed in the Story Museum; and the Digital Hub in the Cheng Building will be live-streamed and this may include some brief shots of the audience.

Please keep your phones on silent during the conference. We'd love to see your highlights from the conference on social media - please post using #ORFC25. Connect with us on Instagram (@oxfordrealfarmingconference), X (@ORFC), Facebook and LinkedIn (/OxfordRealFarmingConference).

## COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESS

The press room is the Jury Room in the Town Hall. There are additional quiet spaces for interviews in the Cheng Building. Your press contact throughout the conference is Lucy Harding ([press@orfc.org.uk](mailto:press@orfc.org.uk)), who will be available to help set up interviews or find quiet places to record. All press and comms professionals are welcome to join us for the ORFC Media Drinks in the Blue Room at 6pm on Thursday. There will be free drinks for those who get there first!

## WHAT'S NEXT? WE'LL SEE YOU IN THE FIELD

After the success of ORFC in the Field at Comrie Croft in the Scottish Highlands last October, we are delighted to be launching a full annual programme, with four immersive, practical on-farm events each year! Our In the Fields will be hosted in partnership with agroecological farms across the UK, with workshops on heritage grains, livestock and landscape interactions, peri-urban farming, food politics, flower growing, and much more. We're showcasing the best agroecological practice and empowering each other with the skills, vision, confidence and commitment we need to transform the food system. Keep your eye on our website - [orfc.org.uk](http://orfc.org.uk) - for exciting announcements coming soon.

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

Wednesday 8th January

5.30pm – 9pm

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
SPEAKERS’ HALL

Registration

Registration will be open from 5.30 to 9pm on Wednesday. You’ll need to check in and pick up your lanyard and badge before joining the other arrivals in the Town Hall.

Town Hall  
MAIN HALL

Food, Drinks, and Music

Join us in the Main Hall from 6pm for delicious local food and drinks from Old Tree Brewery. Meet fellow attendees, chat with the exhibitors, and browse the bookshop before the conference gets into full swing.

Thursday 9th January

8am

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
SPEAKERS’ HALL

REGISTRATION

Register and pick up your lanyard from the Wesley Memorial Methodist Church anytime from 8am. You’ll need to do this before you can head to your first session.

9.30am – 10.30am

Town Hall  
MAIN HALL

OPENING PLENARY

Gather in the Main Hall as we open the 16th Oxford Real Farming Conference together! We’ll be hearing land songs from harpist Siwan Clark, gaining inspiration from movement leaders, and finishing with some lyrical treats from the wonderful Hot Poets. The opening plenary will also be available to watch via screens in the Assembly Room and the Old Library.

11am – 12.30pm

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
SPEAKERS’ HALL

FARMING TODAY FOR TOMORROW’S CLIMATE: PRACTICAL GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

**Speakers:** Meshark Sikuku, Rafael Pflücker, Perrine Bulgheroni

**Chair:** Guy Singh-Watson, Harriet Bell

Speakers from three continents individually share their experience facilitating farm clusters to practically deliver more regenerative practices on farm – reflecting on commonalities around good facilitation as well as differences in practice. In the second half of the session Guy Watson leads the panel in a collective discussion on which practices might be suitable to transfer across continents to support climate adaptation as weather patterns shift.

Town Hall  
ASSEMBLY ROOM

DOING DAIRY DIFFERENTLY

**Speakers:** Phyllida Warmington, Oliver Chedghey, Anna Bowen, Hallam Duckworth

**Chair:** Sara Hall

Dairy is increasingly challenged for its environmental impact and its ongoing social licence with consumers. More and more farmers in the UK and further afield are exploring ways to do dairy differently, whether that’s enabling cow/calf contact, share milking with calves, integrating into arable systems or finding alternative routes to market that create stronger connections between the farm and the consumer. We will hear from farmers who are exploring these varied approaches and have been adjusting their systems to meet the complex demands put on them, environmentally, financially and socially.

Town Hall  
OLD LIBRARY

RE-ROOTING AGROECOLOGY AS A SOCIAL MOVEMENT

**Speakers:** Rebecca Laughton, Edwin Brooks, Michel Pimbert, Anuka De Silva

**Chair:** Jo Kamal

The use of agroecology as an ‘umbrella term’ for sustainable farming is leaving it vulnerable to cooption. As the term appears more and more in government policy, public discourse and even the PR of agrifood giants, there is a growing urgency to understand and defend agroecology as a social movement with strong political and social roots. This panel discussion will hear from farmers, activists and academics who are building a social movement for agroecology, to discuss the risks of cooption and to explore what must be done to re-affirm agroecology as a truly grassroots and liberatory project for transforming our food and land-use systems.

Town Hall  
COUNCIL CHAMBER

LOW-COST INTERVENTIONS TO BENEFIT ANIMALS, ENVIRONMENT, AND FARMERS

**Speakers:** David Carruth, Annie Rayner, Clare Hill

**Chair:** Lindsay Duncan

The average British farmer is in a lose-lose-lose situation, where they damage the environment, create awful lives for animals, and lose money. This session will explore case studies of low-input win-win-win interventions, where animal welfare, profitability, and the land are improved together. Using the examples of mob grazing for chickens and pigs, and developing animal-based income streams for single-use woodland, this panel will explore how new management styles can give animals a life worth living, regenerating the land, and creating new income streams, without necessarily requiring large capital investment.

Town Hall  
COURT ROOM

INCREASING HOME-GROWN PROTEIN IN AN ORGANIC FARMING SYSTEM

**Speakers:** Tom Gregory, Mike Mallett, Erin Matlock

**Chair:** Jerry Alford

In this session, you’ll hear from two farmers about their experience of reducing organic soya in animal feed

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

by incorporating home-grown or UK-produced legumes into their dairy and poultry systems. We’ll cover topics from the use of clover-rich herbal leys and intercropping to sharing strategies for poultry diets, growing pulses and how to select the right crops for your system.

Town Hall  
ST ALDATE’S ROOM

GRAIN SUPPLY CHAIN COLLABORATION THROUGH ON-FARM RESEARCH

**Speakers:** Rufus Pawsey, Mark Lea, Steven McAllister, Catherine Howarth

**Chair:** Andrew Trump

Over the last few years, a collection of stakeholders in the organic grain sector have collaborated to run on-farm variety trials, helping select the most appropriate varieties for organic farming, as well as the highest quality varieties for the oat miller. Research is funded through a research levy paid by the farmers and the miller for mutually beneficial collaboration. Breeders and researchers also take part, adding value to the initiative in terms of varietal selection and data collection. The community approach is paramount, and also shows larger scale grain supply chains can be hugely beneficial, not least in providing healthy, affordable food. This is an innovative model that others could follow.

Museum of Oxford  
MUSEUM MAKERS SPACE

WORKSHOP: ADDING FLOWERS TO YOUR FARM: INCREASING PROFITS AND POLLINATORS

**Facilitators:** Roisin Taylor, Olivia Wilson, Zanna Hoskins, Hannah Lamb, Calixta Killander

As farms need to diversify to secure their future, growing and selling flowers can offer agroecological businesses a viable complement to their existing production. Hear from Hannah Lamb, Yorkshire Edible Flowers, and Calixta Killander, Flourish, about growing flowers and foliage alongside fruit and veg, and from Zanna Hoskins, Spindle, about farm diversification into foliage cropping. The workshop covers how these farms started growing flowers and foliage, the biodiversity benefits of these crops, and the benefits to the farm of

an expanded customer base, as well as providing top tips on how to make growing flowers work for you.

Museum of Oxford  
LEARNING STUDIO

WORKSHOP: MAKING ORGANIC WORK FOR SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS

**Facilitator:** Sam Packer

Organic unites a diverse international community around principles of health, ecology, fairness and care. Organic production standards seek to put these principles into practice. Standards and certification provide a level of assurance to producers and consumers but maintaining integrity and certifying these practices can carry costs that small-scale producers often can’t meet. We need to unblock this challenge so farmers at the heart of the movement can access the market, whilst upholding the principles and integrity that underpins organic claims. This workshop investigates the factors that must be balanced, asking participants to co-create solutions to make organic accessible for all.

Blue Boar House  
INTER-VARSITY ROOM

WORKSHOP: LAND REFORM AND ACCESSING LAND FOR AGRICULTURE

**Facilitators:** Tara Wight, Josh Doble

Landownership patterns around the UK are markedly concentrated, with too few people owning too much land. In this session we will look at the different routes to accessing land for agriculture across England, Scotland and Wales, exploring what we can learn from each context and how we might be able to forge more equitable and diverse landownership models.

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
SANCTUARY

RITUALS FOR THE LAND

**Speakers:** Manchán Magan, Angharad Wynne, Hop, Eddie Rixon

**Chair:** Rachel Fleming

Not so many generations ago our farming communities would practise land-based rituals and ceremonies to ensure productive harvests and good relations between places, people and the powers of nature. These days we

are left only with scattered fragments of what these might have been, when and why they were done. In this session we explore and remember some of the fragments of farming ritual that are still available to us, looking at the consequences of abandoning them and the ways in which we might recover them for contemporary times.

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
HALL

WORKSHOP: INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING AND CAMPAIGNING ON GENETIC MODIFICATION

**Facilitators:** Leonie Nimmo, Gerald Miles, Boglárka Bozsogi, Tom Wakeford

The session will bring together an intergenerational mix of participants in an interactive workshop to discuss campaigns against genetic modification. It will include archive photos and footage of demonstrations, blockades and GM crops being pulled up. It will explore questions including: what ignited fires of resistance then, and what has changed? What can the food activists of today learn from the campaigners of yesterday? Are concerns about GM a thing of the past too, or should we be mobilising again against a new wave of GM?

Story Museum  
THE WOODSHED

ROOTS OF RESISTANCE: FARMING IN PALESTINE

**Speakers:** Lina Isma’il, George McAllister, Cathi Pawson

**Chair:** Muna Dajani

Under military occupation, Palestinian farmers face intensifying and catastrophic challenges across the territory. The Israeli military assault has weaponised hunger, systematically targeted food and water infrastructure, destroyed farmland and contaminated soils in Gaza. In the West Bank, land confiscations, settler attacks and restrictions on movement and trade have all accelerated at an unprecedented rate. This session discusses Palestine’s embattled food and farming heritage, with food sovereignty activist Lina Isma’il from the West Bank, George McAllister who works on action-research in Gaza, Cathi Pawson, co-founder of Zaytoun, and chaired by Palestinian scholar-activist Muna Dajani. The panel ends by asking, what does radical solidarity look like from within the food sovereignty movement.



DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

Story Museum  
THE MAGIC COMMON ROOM

WORKSHOP: WORKERS’ RIGHTS AND RACIAL JUSTICE ACROSS LAND TRADES

**Facilitators:** Solidarity Across Land Trades (SALT), Land In Our Names (LION)

Between 2020-2023, LION and Ubele released the Rootz into Food Growing and Jumping Fences reports, describing BPOC workers’ experiences of discrimination, oppressive workplace cultures, low/no pay, lack of access to land, and isolation in the UK’s agroecology sector. This led to the mobilisation of a group of workers to form a new Trade Union branch aiming to build collective power to challenge oppression and increase accountability in our workplaces. Drawing on evidence gathered by LION and SALT’s workers’ enquiry, this workshop will examine the fundamental interconnection between workers’ struggles and racial inequity, inviting you to reflect and co-create strategies for transformative justice in your workplaces.

Story Museum  
THE LINK ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: EMBODIMENT IN THE LAND: PRACTISING RECIPROCITY**

**Facilitator:** Amy Dakin Harris

Join Amy as she shares gentle movement practices that help us ‘meet’ and nurture exchange with the land that we work with. With the aim of expanding ‘regenerative’ practices into the life of the landworker, Amy has been drawing on her training in somatic movement to devise simple exercises that support us in attuning to presence, for listening and conversing with the landscape of our own bodies, as well as other beings’ bodies (human/more-than-human). There will be invitations to move, witness, and give/receive light touch, with the choice to opt-out or adapt. All bodies and experiences are welcome.

Cheng Building  
DIGITAL HUB  
**MAKING PUBLIC FARMLAND WORK FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Speakers:** Gary Mitchell, Mazarine Girardin, Kim Graham, Alice Martin-Prével, Matthieu de Cointet

**Chair:** Laura Stratford

New alliances are emerging between local governments and civil society to protect farmland and promote the development of agroecology in Europe. This session will be an opportunity to learn how local authorities can establish strategies to enhance regenerative use of public farmland and deliver public services from agriculture. We will dive into concrete examples of local government-led projects (Paris, France and Powys, Wales) and learn about the challenges they must meet to work on land they own, as well as the results they have been able to achieve with the support of civil society and local communities.

Cheng Building  
SEMINAR ROOM  
**SYSTEMS THINKING: EXPLORING THE BENEFITS AND BARRIERS TO WHOLE FARM APPROACHES**

**Speakers:** John Seed, Rhodri Lloyd-Williams, Rachel Phillips, Hannah Blitzer

**Chair:** David McKay

Across the UK, farmers, growers and crofters are navigating an increasingly challenging environment, with complex and often conflicting demands on land use - from food production to wildlife restoration, climate adaptation, and more. A ‘whole farm approach’ is often recommended to help maximise the multifunctionality of agricultural land, but what does that look like on-farm, and how can it be better supported by agricultural policy? In this session, we identify key characteristics of whole farm planning, hear from farmers who have started putting this approach into practice, and explore how policymakers across the devolved nations could support more farms to follow suit.

Ship Street  
LECTURE THEATRE  
**BRIDGING THE RURAL-URBAN DIVIDE: BUILDING COMMON GROUND**

**Speakers:** Anna Jones, Dee Woods, Jade Bashford, Liis Nukis

**Chair:** Bonnie VandeSteege

There is no doubt that there is a rural-urban divide, expressed in terms of culture, life experiences, perceptions, or political outlook. However, if we are to create a just, sustainable and

secure food system then we need food growers in rural areas to find common cause with those who buy the food, most of whom live in urban areas. This session will look at initiatives which are helping to overcome the divide, thus contributing to a united food movement with growers and eaters, rural and urban residents coming together in a shared understanding.

1pm – 1.45pm

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
SPEAKERS’ HALL  
**CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE FUNGAL KIND**

**Speaker:** Richard Fortey

**Chair:** Vicki Hird

Join Richard Fortey, scientist, writer and TV presenter, as he explains the vital but neglected role of fungi in the environment as nature’s recyclers and unseen collaborators. Without their fungal partners trees could not flourish, nor nutrients return to the soil. Although some regard fungi as almost ‘alien’ they are a biological kingdom on a par with those of plants and animals, vital to the maintenance of a healthy ecology. Through his encounters with remarkable mushrooms, Richard Fortey explores the beauty and complexity of the mycological kingdom, with examples drawn from a lifetime of fungal exploration. Fungal biodiversity probably exceeds that of plants and animals combined, but only now are we getting serious about protecting their richness in the wild environment.

Town Hall  
ASSEMBLY ROOM  
**FARM DEEP DIVE: OUR JOURNEY INTO NATURE FRIENDLY LIVESTOCK FARMING**

**Speaker:** Florence Mannerings

**Chair:** Claire Whittle

Join Nature Friendly Farming Network’s Farming Champion Florence Mannerings to hear about her journey into nature friendly farming at Chilton Farm in Kent. Florence will explain how she and her family turned an intensive farm that was in a very poor state into a thriving dairy business where food production and nature work together. The talk will cover conservation

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

grazing on a variety of landscapes, how hedgerow planting and pasture creation are improving resilience to climate change and the importance of enterprise stacking, including holiday accommodation on site and a mobile milk vending machine. There will be a Q&A.

Town Hall  
OLD LIBRARY  
**SETTING UP A TOOL LIBRARY FOR SMALL-SCALE HORTICULTURE**

**Speakers:** Augusta Lewis, Steve Morris

**Chair:** Alison Sheffield

By sharing the story of our first year operating Carmarthenshire’s Tool Library for Small-Scale Growers, our challenges as well as our successes, we hope to inspire other tool libraries. We’ll discuss how and why the initiative was funded and our co-design process, as well as exploring some of the practicalities of selecting tools, managing hires, lease agreements, membership options, maintenance and insurance. Whilst we certainly don’t have all the answers, there’ll be plenty of time to ask questions of the panel and session participants, so others can build on existing experience.

Town Hall  
COUNCIL CHAMBER  
**FARM DEEP DIVE: SHARING LESSONS FROM KINDLING FARM’S FIRST YEAR**

**Speakers:** Helen Woodcock, Chris Walsh

After a decade of searching and a community shares campaign that raised over £1 million, this 800+ member coop purchased a 78 acre farm just outside Liverpool in 2023 to grow organic fruit and veg. Helen and Chris will be presenting this inspiring story and sharing lessons and mistakes made in their first year. The session will focus on the very practical steps being taken right at the start of transforming a conventional farm into an agroforestry pioneer, as well as the personal adjustments those new to farming may need to make.

Town Hall  
COURT ROOM  
**BATS ON YOUR FARM: BOOSTING BIODIVERSITY AND BENEFITS**

**Speaker:** Danielle Smith

Join us to learn about our work with farmers on the transformative potential of welcoming bats and other wildlife onto your farm. Discover how the Bat Conservation Trust’s Connecting People and Landscapes in a Changing Climate Project is not only promoting biodiversity but also supporting regenerative farming practices, training a new generation of conservationists and engaging local communities. We are supporting the transition to a more nature friendly, vibrant, and sustainable farming landscape in Devon that will be more resilient to climate change.

Town Hall  
ST ALDATE’S ROOM  
**TREE FODDER – WHAT, WHY AND HOW**

**Speakers:** Lindsay Whistance

**Chair:** Matt Smee

The practice of making tree hay predates the making of hay from herb and flower rich meadows and has been used for over three millenia. In Europe and modern farming landscapes the practice has fallen out of favour, however the fodder can provide a vital source of feed and nutrients, add resilience to farm systems and provide a supplementary feed source. Join us for this session to learn all about the benefits, challenges and considerations related to the process of adopting tree fodder on farms.

Museum of Oxford  
MUSEUM MAKERS SPACE  
**WORKSHOP: INCREASE NITROGEN ON FARM WITH STRAW ONLY COMPOST**

**Facilitators:** Daniel Tyrkiel, Adam Swan

Double the nitrogen in the starting straw with this simple static composting strategy. We’ll teach you how to capture atmospheric nitrogen in ambient conditions using wheat or barley straw with naturally occurring nitrogen-fixing bacteria. By stacking several bales on each other, ideal conditions for cellulose decomposition and feeding of nitrogen-fixing bacteria are created. The result is a low cost method for increasing the supply of nitrogen on-farm. This method can provide a minimum of 20% of all nitrogen necessary for an intensive wheat crop.

Blue Boar House  
INTER-VARSITY ROOM  
**THE GREAT BIG LUNCHTIME LANDMATCH – FOR GROWERS AND LANDHOLDERS**

**Facilitators:** Olivia Wilson, Roisin Taylor, Rachael Forster

Are you a grower without land? Are you a farmer with parcels of land that are difficult to access with machinery or unsuitable to work in your current model? Verde Flower Co, Wetherly and the LandMatch England working group will offer a guided networking session for ORFC delegates. This session will be of particular interest to new entrants into farming looking for space to put down roots for a new enterprise and landholders who can help kick-start new food, flower and farming based businesses. As we seek a better balance between our businesses and the land, why not join us to explore whether you are the perfect match for a grower or land holder in your area?

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
SANCTUARY  
**ANY HUMAN POWER – THROUGH TO A FUTURE WE’D BE PROUD TO LEAVE BEHIND**

**Speaker:** Manda Scott

Manda Scott will explore dreams, visions and life-changing questions that drew her to write Any Human Power, her first novel in the new Thrutopian genre. What does it take to be a good-enough ancestor? How can we construct a flourishing future from the ashes of modernity – and do this peacefully, in time, in a way that brings a critical mass of the world with us? We live in a complex world, and there is no one-hit answer. We need complex responses built on a new set of values. Working out what these new values are, and how they might replace the narratives of scarcity, separation and powerlessness that define the death cult of predatory capitalism is the most urgent work of this moment. Any Human Power is a ‘seismic, visionary’ novel, but it’s only one map amongst many. There will be others. Together, we will explore what these might be.

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
HALL

YOUTH NETWORKING AND EXHIBITION

Hosted by GM Freeze and Emergent Generation

Come and meet like-minded young people during this relaxed networking session, whilst enjoying a double bill exhibition with (1) Polly Meyrick’s portraits of young people involved in the How Farming Can Cool the Planet project – a collaboration between FLAME, SOS-UK and NFYFC gathering views, experiences and ideas for the future of farming; and (2) GM Freeze’s exhibition on Vintage Seeds of Resistance: Defending Land and Food from GMOs. These exhibitions will be on display in this room throughout the whole day.

St Aldate’s Tavern  
THE BLUE ROOM

REMEMBERING TO USE OUR HANDS TO MAKE THINGS

Speaker: Nick Kary

Chair: Rosie Baldwin

While whittling on the shaving horse Nick will discuss the nature of the human and the impelling need we have to make. Nick will seek to set this in a historical context so as to understand how we have arrived in a place of profound separation from the daily relationship between our hands and making things. In a time when the farming community and many others are asking about their relationship to the land and the natural environment, it is poignant to reconsider how we balance the relationship between our hand and our autonomy and an increasingly technological world. Nick will also read an extract or two from his book, *Material: The Art of Handcrafting Beautiful Objects in a Digital Age*.

Story Museum  
THE WOODSHED

FARMERS – SAVING MORE LIVES THAN PHARMA

Speaker: Jenny Goodman

Join Jenny Goodman, doctor and author of *Getting Healthy in Toxic Times*, for a lunchtime talk to hear her prescriptions for healing your body and the planet. Pesticides and synthetic fertilisers began as weapons of war, and as they travel from factory

to soil to crops to food to people, they wreak havoc on all living cells. Jenny has seen the damage in her clinic, with diseases linked to these pollutants. But if dominant forms of medicine and agriculture have become wedded to the chemical industry, both also contain rebellious, visionary minorities determined to work with Nature, not against her. Jenny believes every farmer who transitions to organic methods is saving lives. Come along to hear how.

Story Museum  
THE MAGIC COMMON ROOM

LANDWORKERS’ ALLIANCE MEET-UP

Hosted by the Landworkers’ Alliance

Are you an LWA Member who’s keen to meet other LWA folk? Or maybe you’re thinking of joining the LWA and eager to find out more. Join us for a relaxed meet-up to chat, make friends, and share lunch with LWA members from across the UK. Please bring your own lunch!

Story Museum  
THE LINK ROOM

HOW TO SELL YOUR PRODUCE DIRECTLY TO A LOCALISED MARKET

Speaker: Rose Davis

Chair: Jess Abis

For many small-scale, localised, and regenerative food producers, profitability can feel like an uphill battle. Direct-to-consumer sales offer the best chance for profitability – but how do you get there when marketing feels like another full-time job? The Nest, a non-profit creative and marketing incubator for agroecological producers, is here to support the transition to a localised, agroecological food system. In this live session, marketing expert Rose Davis and producers from The Nest will share simple, strategic ways to market your business on a tight budget and limited time. Join us to discover how marketing can become a powerful tool to support the success of your direct-to-consumer business, and to book a free 30-minute session during our 1:1 Storytelling Surgery.

Cheng Building  
DIGITAL HUB

CULLING COWS AND EATING INSECTS? UNPICKING FOOD AND FARMING MISINFORMATION

Speakers: Clare Carlile, Paul R Price

Chair: Hazel Healy

Over the past year, sustainable agriculture was subject to intense political debate – as well as manipulation, with misleading narratives spread by everyone from farmer-influencers on YouTube and the far right, to agri-industry and governments. In this panel we share insights from DeSmog’s 2024 investigations into agri-misinformation with a focus on the UK, Ireland and EU elections. The session will seek to explore: how do falsehoods start, who is behind them and what are the impacts? And ask, what other motivations might drive some of the new self-declared allies of farmers?

Ship Street  
LECTURE THEATRE

SUSTAINABLE MEAT: MINIMISE TRANSPORT, SLAUGHTER HUMANELY, STAY PROFITABLE

Speakers: Marianne Landzettel, Amy Quirk, Megan Perry

The decreasing number of small abattoirs negatively impacts animal welfare and reduces opportunities for direct marketing. This session gives an update on the current situation. Marianne Landzettel’s book, *The Sustainable Meat Challenge – How to graze cattle, slaughter humanely and stay profitable*, shows solutions from the EU and the US: from farmer owned small abattoirs and on-farm slaughter to slaughter boxes and new ways of value adding through processing and branding. The presenters are working to develop a prototype small sheep mobile slaughter unit in the UK (similar to a US model), which would benefit in particular upland and hill farmers.

2pm – 3.30pm

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
SPEAKERS’ HALL

INDIE FOOD RETAIL: CHALLENGES, LEARNINGS AND SUCCESS STORIES

Speakers: Phil Haughton, Dan Monks, Josh Smith

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

Chair: Julia Kirby-Smith

Diverse types of food retail are a vital part of creating a better food system - one that is fairer to farmers, better for the environment, and that connects local people to local food. But in a sector that has experienced a turbulent 12 months, it can be difficult for these businesses to flourish, We’ll hear from three sustainable food retailers - the iconic Manchester grocery store Unicorn; the Norfolk market garden and delivery business Goodery; and Bristol’s independent shop chain Better Food - about the challenges they face, how they make it work, and what they are hopeful about in the year to come.

Town Hall  
MAIN HALL

SEED SWAP WITH THE SEED SOVEREIGNTY PROGRAMME

Facilitators: Katie Hastings, Randa Toko

A food revolution starts with seed! Join the Gaia Foundation’s Seed Sovereignty Programme for ORFC’s first ever seed swap! Bring your seeds to swap and your seed stories to tell. Regionally adapted, locally grown, rare, unique and well loved seeds welcome. Packets will be provided.

Town Hall  
ASSEMBLY ROOM

ENHANCING BIOLOGICAL PEST CONTROL: THE FOOD SPRAY APPROACH

Speakers: Stephanie Williamson, Atalo Belay

Chair: Vicki Hird

Discover the innovative food spray method attracting beneficial insects to combat insect pests. Produced on farm from maize and brewers yeast, more than 16,000 farmers in Benin and Ethiopia used this method to manage cotton and vegetable pests without insecticides in 2024. Meanwhile the method has been exported to India, where trials are underway by 16 organisations that support almost one million smallholder farmers. In this session, experts from the UK and Ethiopia will present the food spray approach, share their experiences of adapting it to different crops and discuss opportunities for UK farmers.

Town Hall  
OLD LIBRARY

GROWING THE RAINBOW: LGBTQ+ PERSPECTIVES IN LANDWORK

Speakers: Ali Taherzadeh, Umulkhayr Mohamed, Anna Barrett, Ben Andrews, Shane Holland

Chair: Vera Zakharov

Join our panel and discussion on the role of LGBTQ+ identities and experiences in the food and farming system. We will explore reasons for centring identity, gender and orientation in landwork, the challenges faced by LGBTQ+ workers, the gifts diverse perspectives bring, and the value of affinity groups and allyship within and across communities of identity in our movement. Panellists from Teasel Coop, Agrespect, Landworkers’ Alliance Out on the Land and Cultivating Justice, as well as the Slow Food LGBTQ2S+ collective will share their stories and reflections, alongside a wider audience discussion. Everyone is welcome, including our straight and cis allies.

Town Hall  
COUNCIL CHAMBER

ECONOMICS OF SUSTAINABLE HORTICULTURE: CAN IT BE PROFITABLE?

Speakers: Calixta Killander, Martyn Bragg, Ashley Wheeler

Chair: Kate Collins

Sustainable fruit and veg production has been through somewhat of a renaissance in the last ten years, with a huge wave of passionate new entrants joining the industry. However, making the finances work is hard for even the most experienced growers. This session will look closely at the reality of making a living from sustainable horticulture, the speakers have a wealth of experience to share. They will look at both what has and hasn’t worked for their businesses as well as routes to market, crop range, diversification of income, scale of production and more.

Town Hall  
COURT ROOM

ACTIVATING ENZYMES IN ORGANIC, BIODYNAMIC SOILS – SOME SCIENCE

Speakers: Richard Gantlett, Rafael Pflücker, Laura Wallwork, Dave Morris

Chair: Gabriel Kaye

A presentation of scientific research, including the most recent, on soil enzymes and plant growth. As science and the soil sciences take us into the ever smaller and more diverse intricate aspects of nature, soil health and the universe, we explore the work of enzymes. To take the example of compost teas and biodynamic preparations: science can show us how to help nature with micro biology, fungal activity and natural enzymes that feed our soils and plants. The more we discover the more we realise how complex our universe and ecosystem is and how much we do not yet understand; and we come closer to discovering what the healing power of nature can do when we help.

Town Hall  
ST ALDATE’S ROOM

THE FUTURE FOR SUSTAINABLE FARMING – MAXIMUM SUSTAINABLE OUTPUT

Speakers: Nic Renison, Johnnie Balfour, Chris Clark

Chair: Barnaby Coupe

More and more farmers are discovering that farming with nature can not only help restore lost wildlife and habitats but can also help farms to become more environmentally sustainable, more resilient to unbudgeted events, and more profitable. The path to this better future is encapsulated in the concept of maximum sustainable output (MSO). The principles behind MSO have been set out in *Less is More* published by the RSPB et al, *Farming at The Sweet Spot* published by The Wildlife Trusts and *Nature Friendly Farming*, and the latest 5M Books publication *The Profitable Farm – Balancing Business, Nature and Energy through MSO*.

Museum of Oxford  
MUSEUM MAKERS SPACE

WORKSHOP: FARMS AND KITCHENS – FORGING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN FOOD CITIZENSHIP HUBS

Speakers: Adam Payne, Dee Butterly, Helen Graham, Franco Fubini

Chair: Clementine Hain-Cole

This workshop will provide food citizens with the space and opportunity to discuss and determine practical ways in which kitchens and farms can work together more closely

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

to drive food system change. Drawing on the experience of our farmer, supply chain and chef panellists as well as the participants, we will engage in the collaborative creation of a toolkit that proposes practical solutions to enable wider access to agroecologically grown produce.

Museum of Oxford  
LEARNING STUDIO  
**WORKSHOP: KNOWLEDGE IS POWER: HOW FARM CLUSTERS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD**

**Facilitators:** Abi Mordin, Judith Hutchison, Tim Barnes, Heather Close, Evi Landay

Join this intimate interactive session and workshop with members of the Propagate Regenerative Farming Network, to work through: how and why to set up a farmer led cluster group, the difference it makes to farmers on the ground, and how to be empowered to advocate for changes locally, regionally and nationally. Using the South West Scotland group as a living example, we'll cover everything from building friendships to talking to politicians and influencing policy. And we'll make it fun! Please be aware that space is limited in this session, so please arrive early to ensure a spot.

Blue Boar House  
INTER-VARSITY ROOM  
**TRANSFORMING LAND RELATIONS: THE KEY TO AGROECOLOGICAL CHANGE**

**Speakers:** Olivia Oldham-Dorrington, Alex Heffron, Roz Corbett, Elise Wach, Abel Pearson

**Chair:** Bonnie VandeSteege

Land and property relations determine who lives where, who produces what, and who benefits from land use, with major ecological and social consequences. The food movement desires transformation – this requires a deep change in land relations. But the way property is currently organised in the UK makes this extremely difficult. Private and corporate owners hold vast (and growing) amounts of power over land use; while many aspiring and existing agroecological farmers and urban consumers are united by their landlessness. This session explains why revolutionising land relations is necessary, and provides some ideas for ways forward.

St Columba's United Reformed Church  
SANCTUARY

**FUNGI: WEB OF LIFE SCREENING AND Q&A**

**Speakers:** Tasha Elena Stevens-Vallecillo, Ben Grass

**Chair:** Francesca Price

Join us for a screening of Fungi: Web of Life, a 40-minute immersive documentary following British biologist, Merlin Sheldrake, on a quest along the forest floor to find the precious blue mushroom in Tasmania's ancient Tarkine rainforest. The film raises questions of what we – as human beings – can learn from the wonderful fungal kingdom of life. We'll be looking at these questions and more in a discussion with Tasha Elena Stevens-Vallecillo, a medicinal mushroom grower and Ben Grass, founder of Grass and Co, after the film.

St Columba's United Reformed Church  
HALL

**WORKSHOP: AGROECOLOGICAL YOUTH MOVEMENTS — LET'S CONNECT!**

**Facilitators:** Boglárka Bozsogi, Giacomo Ranalli

This workshop facilitated by Emergent Generation aims to connect food and farming youth movements in the UK and Europe promoting agroecology. We invite youth under 35 engaged in food and farming action to map our activities, identify synergies, pinpoint gaps, and find opportunities to collaborate – turning ideas into action, setting plans in motion. Whether you are a representative of an organisation or simply curious, this is a space for young people to discuss the challenges and rewards of network building, explore ways to achieve greater impact and reach, voice our needs, and connect with others on a regenerative journey.

St Aldate's Tavern  
THE BLUE ROOM

**DISOBEDIENT AND CONVIVIAL APPROACHES TO TRANSFORMATION**

**Speakers:** Michel Pimbert, Sagari R Ramdas, Alejandro Argumedo, Nina Isabella Moeller, Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, Dee Woods

**Chair:** Colin Anderson

In this session, we will explore how practices of disobedience and

conviviality bring new worlds into being through agroecology and food sovereignty. How can disobedience positively disrupt the status quo and challenge business-as-usual? How does conviviality foster solidarity, care, and right relationships in our work? The panel will include activists, researchers and organisers who have collaborated with avant-gardist action researcher Michel Pimbert. We will reflect on a body of work that has been fueled by disobedience and conviviality to inspire and influence change.

Story Museum  
THE WOODSHED

**ACROSS THE WATER: FOOD STORIES FROM NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Speakers:** Cormac Dolan, Helen Keys

**Chair:** Beth Bell

There is lots of great practice in farming and food 'across the water' in Northern Ireland that is orienting us all towards a better food future. Exploring the intersecting roles of land, enterprise and community, we'll look at opportunities, challenges and shared learning that we can take from Northern Ireland and germinate across the UK. With Carrick Greengrocers, Nature Friendly Farming Network, GrowIN and Belfast Food Partnership.

Story Museum  
THE MAGIC COMMON ROOM

**WORKSHOP: GROWING THE LOCAL FOOD SECTOR: WHAT NEXT?**

**Facilitator:** Peter Samsom

The Local Food Growth Plan is reaching its final stages following interviews, workshops and research. The plan, by LWA, Sustain, Pasture for Life, SFT, Better Food Traders and FFCC, aims to both attract investment and stimulate activity, creating substantial growth in the local food sector. In this workshop following quick-fire presentations, participants will review areas for action on the themes of infrastructure, citizen demand, the public plate, collaboration, and policy, looking at opportunities, priorities and how they could be involved. This is a chance to shape the final stage of the plan and help translate it into action.

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

Story Museum  
THE LINK ROOM

**FARMWORKER STRUGGLES IN BRITAIN: VOICES FROM THE FRONTLINE**

**Speakers:** Catherine McAndrew, Valeria Ragni

**Chair:** Tara Wight

The Seasonal Worker Scheme governs the arrival of up to 47,000 migrant farm workers to the UK each year. As part of this scheme, workers are tied to their recruiter and must pay up front for visas and flights. These features are a major driver of debt bondage and forced labour. In this session, we will be joined by the Landworkers' Alliance, the Worker Support Centre, and former farm workers to explore the harsh reality of working in the UK's horticultural supply chains and to discuss how to hold the supermarkets profiting from this situation to account.

Cheng Building  
DIGITAL HUB

**DEFRA Q&A — THE FUTURE OF UK FARMING UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL LAND MANAGEMENT**

**Speaker:** Jonathan Baker

**Chair:** Tom Lancaster

The Government's Environmental Land Management (ELM) schemes represent one of the most progressive farming policies in Europe. With 70% of UK land farmed, the ELM schemes aim to use this vast resource to deliver public goods that restore nature, mitigate climate change, and support resilient food production. This session will explore the future direction of ELMs with Jonathan Baker, Deputy Director of Environmental Land Management Schemes at DEFRA and include an in-depth Q&A, offering attendees the opportunity to engage directly and pose questions about the schemes to Jonathan.

Cheng Building  
SEMINAR ROOM

**HOW TO DIVIDE PROFIT IN A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER COOPERATIVE?**

**Speakers:** Mathias Van Steenbergem, Walter Pirri, Esther Hoedemakers

**Chair:** Cid Van Veerdegem

The Food Hub is a Belgian cooperative wholesaler that works with small-scale, organic producers from Southern Europe. They are a multi-stakeholder coop, so both suppliers (farmers) and customers (shops) are shareholders. In a traditional model, those two have conflicting interests, but The Food Hub have facilitated a model to divide profits by working with a ristorante policy: this shares profits based on the associate's transactions with the cooperative. But how do you create a fair division between the different shareholders? This promises to be an interesting discussion!

Ship Street  
LECTURE THEATRE

**CULTURED MEAT — GAMECHANGER? DISRUPTION? OR JUST HOT AIR?**

**Speakers:** Jonty Brunyee, Andrew Court, Pat Thomas

**Chair:** Lisa Morgans

Right now, policymakers are deciding whether cultured meat could help the UK meet our climate targets. But what would it mean for UK farmers? Competing on price and further consolidation of power and profit? Or could it mean new markets or earning a premium for 'the real stuff'? Before decisions are made that will have far-reaching impacts on our food system, it is time to join the debate. In this session, hear from farmers who took part in a two-year study modelling a future with cultured meat, and then have your say.

4pm – 5.30pm

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
SPEAKERS' HALL

**WHAT DOES AN ANTI-FASCIST FARMING MOVEMENT LOOK LIKE?**

**Speakers:** Alex Heffron, Tom Wakeford, Sagari R Ramdas

**Chair:** Sophia Doyle

The recent wave of farming protests that have swept parts of Europe have shown clearly how the discontents of a segment of farmers are increasingly expressed within a reactionary, right-wing rhetoric. At the same time, both white supremacist violence against migrant, racialised, and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, and state repression against popular

protest, dissent and solidarity are escalating. How can those of us who want to develop an alternative to the imperialist, exploitative food system ensure that our movements remain clearly aligned against reactionary, nationalist and eco-fascist tendencies? What does a progressive, left-wing, explicitly anti-fascist farming politics look like?

Town Hall  
ASSEMBLY ROOM

**GRAZING FOR GOOD? LIVESTOCK AND BIODIVERSITY IN THE UK**

**Speakers:** Robert Barbour, Teleri Fielden, Jo Riggall, Molly Biddell

**Chair:** Patrick Holden

The separation and intensification of grassland and arable production, and the consequent loss of traditional mixed farming systems has represented one of the biggest drivers of biodiversity loss in the UK over the last century. However, well-managed grazing is key for a wide variety of habitats and species, many of which are endangered. This session will look at some of the ways in which grazing animals can support nature recovery in the UK: by improving biodiversity outcomes in our farmed landscape, maintaining the condition of semi-natural habitats; and by helping in the delivery of ecological restoration projects.

Town Hall  
OLD LIBRARY

**WHY AGRARIAN REFORM IS NOT OUTDATED**

**Speakers:** Anuka De Silva, Carson Kiburo, Tara Wight, Paola Laini

**Chair:** Edu H. Nualart

Land grabbing isn't just a phenomenon that takes place in the Global South; it is very much a reality in Europe, too. Land prices are growing, companies from outside the agricultural sector are investing in land, and energy production as well as carbon offsetting schemes are competing with food production. Young people and new entrants struggle to access land, while farmers approaching retirement are structurally obliged to shut up shop. Frustratingly, the UK government remains committed to investing in the capitalist global land agenda, but other

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

countries are joining with civil society to call for a new multilateral International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD), to take place soon and to be organised by the FAO. It is time to (re-)open the discussion of what agrarian reform could also mean in the UK and European contexts. The session aims to look into successful examples of agrarian reform programmes and to develop ideas and demands for the run-up to a new ICARRD.

Town Hall  
COUNCIL CHAMBER  
**INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT: CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES AND SYNERGIES**

**Speakers:** Rosemary Collier, Andy Dibben, Tom Pope

**Chair:** Rebecca Bragg

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a “decision support system for the selection and use of pest control tactics, singly or harmoniously coordinated into a management strategy” (Kogan, 1998). In this session, two applied biologists will provide their latest practical recommendations for managing a selection of pest insect species, and a grower will describe their experience of using IPM strategies. The session will finish with a discussion on identifying and overcoming barriers to effective IPM. This is a knowledge exchange session that we hope will be beneficial for every kind of grower (arable and horticultural alike).

Town Hall  
COURT ROOM  
**VETERAN TREES: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**

**Speakers:** James Robinson, Jules Acton, Louise Hackett

Discover the fascinating characteristics of veteran trees and why they are important for biodiversity. Step back in time to learn about the past management of trees we see on farms; the stories they can tell us about our culture and history through time and their sense of place as boundary trees, landscape markers, fragments of lost hedgerows, ancient wood pasture, or woodland. Hear from

a farmer about the importance of veteran trees on their farm for wildlife, and the importance of selecting veterans of the future and planning for the next generation.

Town Hall  
ST ALDATE’S ROOM  
**MANAGING SUCCESSION IN A MULTI-GENERATIONAL FAMILY FARMING BUSINESS**

**Speakers:** Steph Ackrill, Ian Boyd, Matt Lobley

**Chair:** Russ Carrington

Imagine a farming world where family succession is easily discussed and talked about without emotion or taboo, and where business control and management responsibilities smoothly transition from one generation to the next. Unfortunately today succession in family farming businesses is one of the biggest barriers to progress. It is also a major source of poor mental health, anxiety and stress — so much so that it causes some businesses, or the people that run them, to cease, collapse or go bankrupt. Come and hear more about this topic and how one family has been successfully tackling succession head-on.

Museum of Oxford  
MUSEUM MAKERS SPACE  
**LEARNINGS FROM PATHWAYS TO LAND FOR BPOC**

**Speakers:** Jo Kamal, Pauline Shakespeare

**Chair:** Nicola Scott

This panel will focus on learnings from Stir to Action’s project, Pathways to Land: Exploring financing for BPOC farmers to gain land security in England. Our panel will include project partners as well as project participants. It will draw upon ideas and perspectives from BPOC landworkers and community food organisers about the barriers to accessing land and finance for farming they have faced. It will also explore tangible steps that emerged from our two forums with them, funders, and farming specialists, about what can be done to facilitate greater land security for BPOC landworkers.

Museum of Oxford  
LEARNING STUDIO  
**WORKSHOP: SMALL-SCALE NATURAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT FOR YOUR LAND**

**Facilitator:** Tom Johnstone

A practical session for land owners, land managers and project leads on how you can slow the flow across your land cheaply, easily and to benefit your system and communities downstream.

Blue Boar House  
INTER-VARSITY ROOM  
**CONNECTING THE FARM: LAND, ACCESS AND RESPONSE-ABILITY**

**Speakers:** Debra Willoughby, Sarah Langford, Romilly Swann, Guy Thallon

**Chair:** Amy-Jane Beer

The panel is made up of members of the Access Friendly Farmers and Landowners working group convened by Right to Roam as part of our effort to understand the challenges, risks and opportunities of increased public access to or across farmland. The four panellists farm in different ways, all care deeply about land and nature, and have experience of dealing with the public on land they care for. We’ll discuss some of the frequently raised concerns and explore some of the benefits of recentering land and farming in the cultural and recreational life of the nation.

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
SANCTUARY  
**NURTURING THE LIFE FORCE IN SEED, SOIL AND PLANTS**

**Speakers:** Shinya Imahashi, Matthew Adams, Jana Rock

**Chair:** Ben Raskin

This panel will explore how we can recognize and nurture the innate life force in seed, soil and plants to advance human and planetary health. Panellists will provide perspectives on how growing practices and the consciousness of the farmer can lead to greater resilience, nutrition, and flavour in food. The panel will discuss ways to assess nutrient density, the importance of food vitality and community engagement, and how our relationship with nature nurtures mind, body and spirit.

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
HALL  
**WORKSHOP: COLLABORATIVE LANDSCAPE INITIATIVES BY UPLAND FARMERS**

**Facilitators:** Julia Aglionby, Jane Lane

Come and explore collaborative approaches by small-scale upland farmers to deliver at a landscape scale for food and nature as well as climate, flood mitigation and access in England’s Uplands. With facilitation from representatives from farmer clusters, common land projects and landscape recovery projects we invite you to join in, share and learn about how small-scale farmers benefit from working together. Chaired by Julia Aglionby from Our Upland Commons with input from Jane Lane from the Orton Fells Cluster, the Central Dartmoor Landscape Farmer Cluster and the Resilient Glenderamackin Landscape Recovery project.

St Aldate’s Tavern  
THE BLUE ROOM  
**FROM DISCONNECTION TO LIBERATION: COMMUNICATION TO INSPIRE YOUTH**

**Facilitator:** Margarita Barcena Lujambio, Umulkhayr Mohamed

An invitation to youth at ORFC! This interactive roundtable will explore how we can use communications to bring younger generations in urban settings into existing movements — particularly food sovereignty as a roadmap toward environmental justice and collective liberation. Given the widespread confusion and lack of hope, especially in industrial and urban areas across the world, it’s crucial for youth and those in urban settings who feel isolated or hopeless to know that Indigenous communities and movements all over the world have been and are organising and that there are so many things to build up from.

Story Museum  
THE WOODSHED  
**COMMUNITY, FOOD, LAND, NATURE; LOCAL AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES**

**Speakers:** Samwel Nangiria Taresero, JC Niala, Atenchong Talleh Nkobou, James Norman

**Chair:** Ollie Douglas

From community allotments and farms of the UK to the grasslands of Maasai homeland, access to land, or exclusion from it, determines how communities function, how we produce food, eat, and our ability to situate ourselves in nature. This panel explores the intersection of land rights, nature, community, and food. We explore how traditional Maasai cultural resources have been used to resist enclosure of shared land, how perspectives from the global south might help shape community land management in Scotland, how allotments serve as mechanisms for providing utopic city spaces, and how English farming has an important role to play.

Story Museum  
THE MAGIC COMMON ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: CULTIVATING LONG-TERM SOLIDARITY WITH FARMERS IN PALESTINE**

**Facilitators:** Sara Moon, Samson Hart, Edwin Brooks, Leonie Nimmo

Join this action-oriented workshop to explore how members of the UK agroecology movement can cultivate long-term solidarity with farmers and food producers in Palestine who face ongoing violence, murder, aggression and confiscation of their lands at the hands of Israeli occupying forces; a degree of devastation which UN human rights experts have amounted to a genocide. The workshop will begin with pre-recorded messages from farmers bringing in the 2024 olive harvest, followed by an introduction to the LWA Palestine Solidarity Twinning Project (a collaboration with the Palestinian Union of Agricultural Workers’ Committees), and a facilitated discussion to explore what we can do on a personal, farm, and movement-wide level to offer meaningful solidarity and support to land-based communities in Palestine.

Story Museum  
THE LINK ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: ANTI-OPPRESSION CIRCLE: RETRACING THE FOOTSTEPS OF OUR ANCESTORS**

**Facilitators:** Liba Ravindran, Loa Niumeitolu

This is a workshop for people to reconnect with the land. We begin with

honouring the Indigenous people and land we are on. Everyone introduces themselves. Participants share their stories about how their families and ancestors dealt with challenging and difficult systemic situations in their lives. Participants will share oral and written stories that illustrate actions of anti-oppression and justice that are rooted in their ancestral lines, whether genealogical, cultural or other forms that fought oppression and brought justice. This circle also employs somatic exercises to allow the participants to feel into the power of their ancestors and their experiences.

Cheng Building  
DIGITAL HUB  
**ENSURING A JUST TRANSITION FROM INTENSIVE LIVESTOCK**

**Speakers:** Laura Stratford, Jake Richardson, Lídia Cabral, Amro Hussain

**Chair:** Ruth Westcott

Our climate, nature, animal rights and health emergencies require transitioning out of intensive livestock systems to agroecology. How can we ensure this transition addresses power imbalances, tackles injustice and provides the necessary protections to those most affected in such a transition? Join us as we delve into diverse perspectives including worker solidarity and just rewilding. This session will challenge us to think about how justice can be embedded in agricultural, nature, climate and planning policy, ensuring a transition leaves no one behind.

Cheng Building  
SEMINAR ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: REAL VOICES ON THE RIGHT TO FOOD**

**Facilitators:** Beth Bell, Kay Johnson, Dee Woods, Pete Ritchie

Current industrial food systems prioritise profit, leave people hungry and damage the ecosystems on which life relies. Food sovereignty and the right to food can be transformational, putting people and ecological resilience, instead of profit, at the centre of food systems. However, it’s not a right to just any food, but a right to nutrient-rich



DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

food, grown in harmony with the planet and animals, by people who are fairly paid and cared for. This workshop will unlock the tangible actions we need in different parts of the food system to make the right to food a reality, for everyone, forever.

Ship Street  
LECTURE THEATRE  
**HOW SHOULD WE UNDERSTAND BIODIVERSITY IN POLYCULTURES?**

**Speakers:** Alfie Gathorne-Hardy, Daisy Martinez, Beth Nicholls, Barbara Smith

**Chair:** Ulrich Schmutz

Received wisdom tells us that polycultures, a farming technique that involves growing multiple crops in the same area, can be excellent for biodiversity by enhancing the number of wild species that occupy the land. However, biodiversity is not ‘one thing’ – we don’t yet know ‘what’ biodiversity polycultures can support – common species? Rare species? How do pests and beneficial species trade off in polycultures? Is there any benefit of polycultures for biodiversity in the surrounding landscape? And importantly – what should we be aiming for? This panel brings together four people working on biodiversity in polycultures to openly discuss with you all the key question: what biodiversity do we actually want?

6pm – 7.30pm

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
SANCTUARY  
**SACRED PLANT CIRCLE WITH MUGWORT (ARTEMISIA VULGARIS)**

**Facilitators:** Hop, Seiel Sun

We invite you to join fellow farmers and landworkers in ceremony to meet in a safe and sacred space with Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*.) Mugwort is a powerful plant ally of the Wise Isles (UK) it can be worked with as a tincture, balm, sacred smoke or infusion. Mugwort is a protector and keeper of the liminal and dream spaces. We will sit in circle together, incorporating meditation, movement, music/song and drinking an infusion of mugwort. Please bring a sacred/ special object with you to create a

collective altar together. The spaces in the session will be prioritised for those who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community.

St Aldate’s Tavern  
THE BLUE ROOM

ORFC MEDIA DRINKS

**Hosted by the Agroecology Comms Network (ACN)**

This is an opportunity for journalists and comms professionals attending the conference to gather for an informal social before the evening’s entertainment. Please come and meet friends and colleagues for a drink upstairs in the St Aldates Tavern (opposite the Oxford Town Hall). The event will be hosted by the Agroecology Comms Network, which connects those working in communications across the food and farming movement. There will be free drinks for those who are quick!

Story Museum  
THE WOODSHED

FROM UBUNTU TO KAPWA: EARTH WISDOM AND REGENERATIVE DESIGN IN FOOD SYSTEMS

**Speakers:** Sonita Mbah, Konkankoh Joshua, Mamerto Lagitan Tindongan, Margarita O. Zethelius, Abuela Daira Quinoñes

**Chair:** Sarah Queblatin

What can we learn from communities already facing the polycrisis from the frontlines of climate emergency, conflict, and historical colonisation? How might Indigenous wisdom and traditional ecological knowledge from these places at the edges offer critical and vital ways of addressing the polycrisis we are facing in the

world today? What deeper design principles and practices can their experiences enhance the growing call for regenerative cultures in transforming food systems? Join us in this discussion with earth wisdom keepers and regenerative designers from Cameroon, Colombia, and the Philippines sharing ancestral wisdom along with the struggles of grassroots communities in relationship with their land.

Story Museum  
THE MAGIC COMMON ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: LEARNING TO CONNECT WITH THE OCEAN**

**Facilitators:** Sofie Elise Quist, Margherita Paola Poto, Laura Vita, Diana Garduño Jiménez

The Ocean sustains all life but is often absent from our thinking about food and agriculture. This workshop allows participants to foster a deeper connection with the seas and engage in the wonders of ocean literacy through storytelling, games, and reflexive activities. We start with storytelling about (re) connecting with the sea through food. Then participants will be divided into groups to join in immersive activities developed by the Ocean Incubator Network to explore the role of the Ocean in food systems from our different standpoints. The workshop ends with a reflexive walk, and an invitation to implement care for the Ocean in our own spheres of influence.

Story Museum  
THE LINK ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: COMMONING, QUEERING AND CHERISHING COMPOST**

**Facilitators:** ffin Jordão, Steph Robinson

Conferences can be chaotic places. Retreat to the calm of compost, to clarify, ferment and cherish all that you have heard and felt. Plunge your digits into our hand-made compost remedy as we gently explore soil care practices crumble by crumble. What rot-epiphanies do you want to share? What poetry will you whisper or write to the dark matter? Sit, listen, talk, move as we embrace the discarded, make space for letting go and celebrate transformation. This is a drop in session, open to everyone, running from 6 - 9:30 pm in the Link Room.

Cheng Building  
DIGITAL HUB  
**TIPPING POINTS: FOLK MUSIC PERFORMANCE AND TALK**

**Performers:** Luke Daniels, Sara Daniels, Andy Neal

**Chair:** Lucy Beattie

Tipping Points is where science and folk music intertwine to explore climate communication. Led by Dr

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY

Lucy Beattie, Luke Daniels, Sara Daniels and Professor Andy Neal (Rothamsted Research). Merging original compositions for melodeon, guitar, and voice with storytelling, this offers a unique perspective on the interactions between science, society, and the environment. From the Neolithic to the present, the performance travels through the landscapes of the British Isles, drawing on English and Scottish traditional music. Experience and participate with the music behind the lived stories of farmers and fisherfolk to discover how our past can inspire a sustainable future.

Cheng Building  
CHENG CAFE  
**FARMING FUTURES – A NETWORKING HOUR FOR EMERGING LEADERS AND SECTOR SUPPORTERS**

**Hosted by Sustain, Emergent Generation, Soil Association and Roots to Work**

This session aims to provide an informal, inclusive, and engaging networking opportunity for anyone who is passionate about – or curious about – the politics and practice of food and farming. The event is aimed at fostering intergenerational cohesion by welcoming those newer to the movement and those established in it. Come along to meet new people, share ideas and opportunities, and build new connections. Please note that this event is in the café on the second floor of the Cheng Building, you will need to take the lift or stairs up.

8pm – 9.30pm

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
SANCTUARY  
**TÁIN: TRADITIONAL STORYTELLING**

**Performers:** Mark Borthwick, David Hughes

A covetous Queen, an untamable beast, and two lovers trapped on opposite sides of the war. Based on the epic ancient Irish myth of the Táin Bó Cúailnge, TÁIN is a storytelling show about blood

magic, tradition, and land ruination in the mythic age of Ireland. Set against a backdrop of shadow, and scored with a fusion of traditional and electronic music, TÁIN puts new meat on ancient bones, exploring masculinity, inheritance, and right relationship with the land.

Story Museum  
THE WOODSHED  
**WE FEED THE UK WITH POETRY**

**Performers:** Dizraeli, Testament, Abby Oliveira, Liv Torc

Hot Poets Dizraeli, Testament, Abby Oliveira and Liv Torc are four of the incredible poets working on We Feed The UK, a major arts project coordinated by The Gaia Foundation, pairing award-winning photographers and spoken word artists to tell the stories of the UK’s most inspiring regenerative farmers and food producers. They will be sharing a medley of these groundbreaking poems as part of the ORFC’s opening plenary in the Town Hall, as well as hosting and performing a full length Hot Poets show in the evening here at the Woodshed.

Story Museum  
THE MAGIC COMMON ROOM  
**LGBTQAI+ SOCIAL**

**Hosted by Out On The Land (Landworkers’ Alliance)**

Drop in and join us for an informal evening social. This is a welcoming space, where you can feel comfortable turning up on your own or with friends, and our craft table offers an easy way to meet new people without the pressure! So come and hang out, grab a drink, get to know other LGBTQAI+ landworkers, and digest the first day of the conference!

Story Museum  
THE LINK ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: COMMONING, QUEERING AND CHERISHING COMPOST**

**Facilitators:** ffin Jordão, Steph Robinson

Conferences can be chaotic places. Retreat to the calm of compost, to clarify, ferment and cherish all that you have heard and felt. Plunge your digits into our hand-made compost remedy as we gently explore soil

care practices crumble by crumble. What rot-epiphanies do you want to share? What poetry will you whisper or write to the dark matter? Sit, listen, talk, move as we embrace the discarded, make space for letting go and celebrate transformation. This is a drop in session, open to everyone, running from 6 - 9:30 pm in the Link Room.

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

Friday 10th January

8am – 8.30am

Town Hall  
OLD LIBRARY  
**MEDITATION FOR FARMERS**

To meditate is to pay attention and be present in the here and now. During this meditation, led by Mick McEvoy, we will pay attention to our body posture and our breath, through breathing in, breathing out, smiling, relaxing and letting go. We will pay attention to the four elements of which we are made; earth, air, fire and water and we will do so with gratitude. Please join this session to learn about how to be and how to live mindfully, heart-fully and with gratitude.

9am – 10.30am

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
**SPEAKERS' HALL**  
**IS A FOSSIL FREE FOOD SYSTEM POSSIBLE?**  
**Speakers:** Helen Browning, Christine Delivanis, Emile Frison  
**Chair:** Matthew Kessler

Food and fossil fuels are more intertwined than we think – 15% of global fossil fuel use happens in our food systems. This panel addresses the critical challenge of breaking food systems’ reliance on fossil fuels and navigating a just transition to fossil-free food systems. We'll explore the challenges, opportunities, and trade-offs across the supply chain. Join us as we identify both the low-hanging fruits and the toughest obstacles in phasing out fossil fuels for a fair, sustainable food future. This session will be recorded as part of a bonus episode of the Fuel to Fork podcast, so bring your big questions!

Town Hall  
MAIN HALL  
**WORKSHOP: WORKING WITH WOOL: DEMONSTRATION AND SKILL SHARING**  
**Facilitators:** Megan Perry, Julie Baber, Jen Hunter, Sofie Keller, Ria Burns  
This workshop will showcase the beauty and versatility of wool – introducing you to new skills and

highlighting the role of wool in sustainable livestock systems. This is an informal drop-in space where you can handle different types of fleece and learn about different ways to process and use wool. Try your hand at a range of wool-based skills such as carding, spinning, weaving, knitting, felting and more. All abilities welcome!

Town Hall  
ASSEMBLY ROOM  
**CAN FARMED SALMON EVER BE SUSTAINABLE?**  
**Speakers:** Corin Smith, Rachel Mulrenan, Caroline Bennett, Francois Beyers

**Chair:** Gina Lovett  
Often touted as an environmentally-friendly alternative to other forms of protein, in reality, industrial salmon farming wreaks havoc on the surrounding marine environment, has severe costs for the planet in terms of resources used, and facilitates the suffering of millions of fish. These issues apply to all types of farmed salmon, be it welfare assured, certified ‘organic’, sustainable, fresh or smoked. How do we tackle these issues and make a shift towards more responsible fish production?

Town Hall  
OLD LIBRARY  
**SMASH IMPERIALISM! FOR A NEW TRADE FRAMEWORK BASED ON SOLIDARITY!**  
**Speakers:** Anuka De Silva, Edu H. Nualart, Carson Kiburo

**Chair:** Sophia Doyle  
How does imperialism affect our food systems? How is all this directly linked with European public policies and free trade agreements? How does imperialism affect rural and indigenous youth? What can we do to change the neo-colonial domination of the north towards the south? How do we fight and how do we resist it? Young members from La Via Campesina and the International Indian Treaty will be addressing the intersection between imperialism and agroindustry, and presenting the alternatives that the food sovereignty movement is advocating.

Town Hall  
COUNCIL CHAMBER  
**ULTRA-PROCESSED FOODS: TOWARDS AN AGROECOLOGICAL SOLUTION**  
**Speakers:** Harriet Bell, Mhairi Brown, George Young

**Chair:** Rob Percival  
In the past year concern about ultra-processed foods (UPF) has entered the mainstream consciousness. A growing body of research has linked UPF to poor health and environmental outcomes, and governments are asking how they should respond. This session will explore the agroecological solution to the UPF challenge. If our industrial food system is oriented towards ultra-processing, undermining public and planetary health, can we create the conditions for a grassroots agroecological alternative, ensuring everyone can access and enjoy a diet based around whole and minimally processed foods?

Town Hall  
COURT ROOM  
**PROGRESS TOWARDS A PEAT-FREE HORTICULTURAL SYSTEM**  
**Speakers:** Francis Rayns, Audrey Litterick, Emma Restorick, Sebastian Kipp

**Chair:** Mary Dimambro  
We remain reliant on peat in horticulture despite the urgency to transition away from its use. Whilst some crops are now commonly sown into peat-free modules, many seedlings are grown in blocks that contain a large proportion of peat. This session will showcase the effort that is being made at multiple scales to remove peat from seedling blocks. It is vital that we keep driving progress towards removing peat from our growing systems and this session will provide a platform for constructive discussion and further collaboration.

Town Hall  
ST ALDATE’S ROOM  
**RADICAL HONESTY IN ACTION: PAVING THE WAY FOR FOOD AND RACIAL JUSTICE**  
**Speakers:** Roshni Shah, Nicola Scott, Dawn Dublin  
**Chair:** Idman Abdurahaman

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

The sustainable food movement faces a critical question: are we truly advancing a just food system? Marginalised communities, particularly Black and people of colour (BPOC), bear the brunt of global food and climate injustices but remain underrepresented in decision-making. Inspired by Eating Better’s Nourishing Justice guide, this panel explores the essential steps for meaningful change, highlighting radical honesty as key to moving beyond Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) towards real social justice. We will discuss tangible actions to create a fair and sustainable food system, building on the momentum of the BLM movement to drive systemic change.

Museum of Oxford  
MUSEUM MAKERS SPACE  
**WORKSHOP: NEXT STEPS IN BUILDING A NEW CEREAL SEED SYSTEM**  
**Facilitators:** Hattie Hammans, Josiah Meldrum, Steven Jacobs

The current seed system emerged in the 20th century to protect farmers from disreputable merchants, to recognise and protect the efforts of plant breeders, and to drive innovation. Over time, legislation and regulation emerged to codify and protect it. Today that seed system is failing to serve farming, milling, baking and eating preferences for organic-agroecosystems. It appears slow to respond to climate change, biodiversity loss, resource constraints and diet-related ill-health and seems out of step with many farmers’ desire to do things differently. In this workshop, we will co-design an alternative seed system - one that’s adaptive, resilient and scale-appropriate.

Museum of Oxford  
LEARNING STUDIO  
**THE NEST 1:1 STORYTELLING SURGERY**  
**Facilitators:** Joel Davies, Alice Lengereau, Rose Davis  
Are you an agroecological producer looking to grow your business but on a tight budget and limited time? Come and book a free 30-minute session with our brand experts, Alice and Joel, and marketing expert, Rose Davis. In your 1:1 session, our team will be on hand to troubleshoot all questions on

branding, marketing and storytelling. The Nest is a non-profit creative and marketing incubator for agroecological producers. We are here to accelerate the transition to a localised food system by supporting producers across the UK to sell and market their produce.

Blue Boar House  
INTER-VARSITY ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: BEYOND THE TECH DIVIDE: RETHINKING INNOVATION FOR AGROECOLOGY**  
**Facilitators:** Chantal Wei-Ying Clément, Pat Thomas, Ayms Mason, Lawrence Woodward, Saskia Colombant, Robbie Blake, Inês Tielas da Silva

Join IPES-Food and A Bigger Conversation for an interactive workshop exploring technological innovation in agroecology. This is an opportunity to help reframe and reclaim the innovation narrative, redefining technology in service of dignity, justice and resilience in food systems. Through small group discussions we will explore the elements of innovations that support diverse, sustainable production systems. We will collectively discuss real-world examples to understand tech and innovation, reflecting on benefits and trade-offs of various approaches and exploring ways to empower communities in shaping innovation pathways. Come ready to participate actively and share your insights!

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
SANCTUARY  
**CREATING NEW CROFTS: A PATHWAY TOWARDS LAND JUSTICE?**  
**Speakers:** Miranda Geelhoed, Agnes Rennie, Rosemary Champion, Jamie McIntyre

**Chair:** Donna Smith  
Crofting holds great potential to increase access to land at a time of overheating land markets. Historically, crofting was introduced to keep families on the land from which they had previously been cleared. These days, more than ever, we need people taking stewardship over the land collaboratively, in ways mutually beneficial for human communities and nature. Creating new crofts can facilitate exactly this. In principle, nothing prevents us from establishing thousands of new crofts across Scotland. The panel builds on previous

ORFC events on crofting and explores the possibilities as well as the political and legal stumbling blocks along the way.

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
HALL  
**WORKSHOP: AGROECOLOGY ASSESSMENT TOOLS: MEASURING AND IMPLEMENTING THE TRANSITION**  
**Facilitators:** Boglárka Bozsogi, Lili Balogh, Rémi Cluset, Vincent Dauby

How do we prove that agroecology works? Amidst the call for more evidence on the benefits of agroecological practices, assessment tools evaluate progress on the ground and help farmers, advisors, policymakers, and researchers collect impact data. How do we build simple yet contextual tools? How can we aggregate and share this knowledge to foster the transition? Experiences from two indicator systems, OASIS by Agroecology Europe and TAPE by FAO, will ignite interactive discussions on creating collaborative ecosystems of practice to measure agroecological performance, create narratives of change, and use the evidence to bolster implementation for the food and farming system transition.

Story Museum  
THE WOODSHED  
**TRAUMA AND THE LAND**  
**Speakers:** Patrick MacManaway, Colin Campbell, Jill Purce  
**Chair:** Rachel Fleming

What is the relationship between people and places when it comes to trauma? Can the land become traumatised and if so how can this happen? What impact might this have on food production, on animal health and on the humans, farms and communities that live there? How might such trauma be resolved and is this something in which we can all be involved? And can the land help to heal human trauma and grief? We look at different perspectives on how this reciprocal relationship might operate.

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

Story Museum  
THE MAGIC COMMON ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: REPARATIONS – LEARNING FROM EXAMPLES EXISTING WITHIN MODERNITY**

**Facilitators:** Saurabh Arora, Tatiana Garavito, Natalie Larley

Meaningful reparations are not simply about redistributing wealth within the same system but about dismantling that system entirely. They involve repairing the profound social and ecological harm caused by European colonialism and its aftermath, and co-creating systems rooted in justice, liberation, and care. This open session will explore lived examples of reparative practices that challenge the status quo. It will be interactive, with contributions based on lived experiences of reparative practices welcomed from all participants.

Story Museum  
THE LINK ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: AVOIDING BURNOUT AND LOOKING AFTER YOUR HEALTH**

**Facilitators:** Becca Stevenson, Ruth Hancock, Ben Raskin

How to look after our health, mental and physical, in the farming sector. Ideas to build resilience. How to cope with illness. A space for people to share the tough times and what helps get them through. How to transition out of the sector if your health won’t allow you to farm and the challenges that come with that. A workshop to share and support others.

Cheng Building  
DIGITAL HUB  
**AGROECOLOGY ACROSS THE FOUR NATIONS: UNITY AND DIVERGENCE IN APPROACHES**

**Speakers:** Alex Mackaness, Gian Marco Currado, Jill Montgomery, George Burgess

**Chair:** Jenna Hegarty

As the new Labour government emphasises a renewed commitment to better cooperation between the devolved nations, this session aims to foster dialogue on emerging farming policies across the UK. The event will bring together policymakers, NGOs and think tanks from England, Scotland,

Wales, and Northern Ireland to outline each nation’s current vision for food and farming, and to discuss how governments are working to produce good food, restore nature, and tackle climate change. Panellists will explore the areas of unity and divergence in these national approaches, and outline the areas for potential collaboration to support the agroecological movement across the country.

Cheng Building  
SEMINAR ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: LOCAL POWERS AND LEVERS DRIVING AGROECOLOGY**

**Speakers:** Mark Walton, Henri Greig, Charlotte Molyneux

**Chair:** Sarah Williams

The session will look at local powers and levers driving the adoption of agroecological practices and the role of food partnerships in this context. The session will offer participants an overview of the role that local authorities can play to support the agricultural sector including examples from Devon County Council, farmers, policy experts and food partnerships. This is a workshop-style session where there will be opportunities to exchange ideas, ask questions and contribute to a discussion as to how local powers could further support the sector.

Ship Street  
LECTURE THEATRE  
**HOW DO WE ACTUALLY FUND AN AGROECOLOGICAL TRANSITION?**

**Speakers:** Jo Poulton, Will White, Nina Isabella Moeller, Hamish Evans

**Chair:** Bonnie Hewson

The food system needs a just transition – how do we create the conditions for change and ensure no one is left behind? In our current extractive economy, corporate interests have the most power to dictate terms, stifling transformation. This panel will explore the cultural shifts and policy levers needed for an agroecological transition, focusing on justice, equity, and community ownership. We’ll discuss strategies to reclaim decision-making power, prioritise a well-being economy, and elevate food from a public good to a human right. Join us in envisioning

a future of food sovereignty and ecological resilience – and help us plan how to get there.

11am – 12.30pm

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
SPEAKERS’ HALL

**LAND, FOOD AND SPIRIT**

**Speakers:** Andrew Bovarnick, Rupert Sheldrake, Sandra Salazar, Rafael Pflücker, Denise Walton

**Chair:** Patrick Holden

As farmers, growers, activists and supporters of the agroecological movement, we often experience and are motivated by a heart-felt or sacred connection to the land. Yet finding ways to express this belief system or bring it into our daily work can be challenging. Are we overlooking a powerful and transformative tool that could support a transition to a fairer food and farming system? Patrick Holden will be joined by scientist, Rupert Sheldrake, the United Nations Development Programme’s Head of Food, Andrew Bovarnick, farmers Sandra Salazar and Denise Walton and agronomist Rafael Pflücker to discuss how recognising a more reciprocal relationship with Nature, alongside developing our own inner capacities, could help transform the way we approach food and farming.

If you are interested in exploring these themes in more depth, head to the workshop, Land, Food And Spirit – Harvesting Our Experiences hosted by the Conscious Food Systems Alliance (CoFSA).

Town Hall  
MAIN HALL

**WORKSHOP: ‘GROWING PEACE, SEEDING IDEAS’ – SMALL POSTER PRINTING WORKSHOP**

**Facilitators:** Kate Bowman, Felix Kary

A brief hands-on workshop that provides a place to pause and digest the wild topics of the sessions. Printing small A5 posters using an 8x5 Adana Printing press, and a selection of vintage and hand-carved rubber stamps, including seeds and seedlings, hands tending the land and fungal hyphae using ecologically

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

sourced inks. Exploring the act of profound hope that is planting a seed, the printing press will be exploring the wildly imaginative ideas seeded at the ORFC in the depths of winter and all the phenomenal possibilities that they could become in the world as the year unfolds.

Town Hall  
ASSEMBLY ROOM

**SCALING UP THE MARKET GARDEN**

**Speakers:** George Bennett, Rita Oldenbourg, Hamish Evans

**Chair:** Amy Willoughby

Traditional market gardens have long been in decline, but new growers are bringing a much-needed agroecological renaissance. After navigating the early years, they now face new challenges to scale up their enterprises and build stronger and sustainable local food economies. The Organic Growers Alliance and CSA Network have brought together growers who are successfully managing this transition to describe: Scaling the crops up – planning and techniques for 12 month production, field scale growing and crop storage. On-farm systems – staffing, technical systems and diversification. Off-farm interactions – routes to market, working with other growers and the community.

Town Hall  
OLD LIBRARY

**HOMEGROWN FASHION: THE BRITISH FIBRES REGENERATING LANDSCAPES AND CREATIVITY**

**Speakers:** Jen Hunter, Claire O’Sullivan, Rosie Bristow, Sara Grady

**Chair:** Elizabeth Keach

British fashion is known globally for its quality and creativity. Yet much of this ingenuity is brought to bear today through extractive supply chains originating in the Global South, relying on toxic materials and exploitative labour and agricultural practices. The science is clear that fashion must shift its sourcing to materials originating in the biosphere that are produced in ecologically restorative ways. This panel convenes experts who are actively bridging the gap between fashion and materials sourced from

Britain’s regenerative landscapes. By sharing their transformative journeys, they illuminate the challenges, potential and meaning of British fashion.

Town Hall  
COUNCIL CHAMBER

**SILVOHORTICULTURE – INTEGRATING TREES INTO VEGETABLE GROWING SYSTEMS**

**Speakers:** Andy Dibben, Ben Raskin

**Chair:** Harriet Bell

This session will explore how to intelligently integrate trees into horticultural crops. Both speakers have designed, established and managed agroforestry systems and have extensive experience in commercial horticultural crop production. This session will cover the benefits of trees for horticultural crops, potential crops from trees, system design options, planting, early tree establishment, tree protection, tree understory, cropping tree crops and potential negative impacts of trees on horticultural crops. It will also look at the very important role trees play in reversing biodiversity decline and in mitigating and adapting to climate change.

Town Hall  
COURT ROOM

**STRENGTHENING PUBLIC GOOD NARRATIVES FOR BEEF AND SHEEP SYSTEMS**

**Speakers:** Christine Meadows, John Powell, Keziah Suskin, Hannah Thorogood, Amber Lawes-Johnson

**Chair:** Gabriel Kaye

The UK Government’s Post-Brexit policy “Public Money for Public Goods” presents an opportunity for agriculture to redefine its role in delivering food production alongside ecosystem enhancement. A sustainable transition requires a long-term vision that includes social, cultural, and environmental dimensions of animal-based farming and how these systems provision public good outcomes. This session will gather experts across the beef and sheep farming sectors to define the opportunities and challenges in using public money for public goods to support context-

specific agroecological outcomes; and how future financial support can be better tailored across the agri-environment schemes.

Town Hall  
ST ALDATE’S ROOM

**AGROECOLOGICAL FARMING ACCELERATOR PROGRAMMES – LESSONS LEARNT**

**Speakers:** Jonty Brunyee, Clare Hill, Silas Hedley-Lawrence, Becky Grove

**Chair:** Russ Carrington

Being a successful and happy agroecologist, whether you are a farmer, grower, adviser, facilitator or leader, is knowledge intensive. You also need a degree of confidence and connection. Join us and hear about a range of accelerator programmes that aim to deliver intensive and impactful learning, mindset shift and community building in the agroecological and regenerative farming space. How do these programmes compare? How can you engage? What lessons have been learnt? What do you need next as a potential participant?

Museum of Oxford  
MUSEUM MAKERS SPACE

**WORKER POWER! WORKER CO-OPS IN THE SUSTAINABLE FOOD INDUSTRY**

**Speakers:** Franklin Scrase, Debbie Clarke, Giles Simon

**Chair:** Stephanie Motzek

This session will focus on the benefits and challenges of a co-operative approach to organising in the food industry. It will look at examples: Suma, a worker-owned wholesaler of sustainable and responsibly sourced food distributing across the UK; Unicorn Grocery, a worker co-op retailer selling natural, quality food and drink; and Tyddyn Teg, a worker-owned farm growing and distributing veg in Wales. Alongside stories from each of the co-ops, the session will look at some of the key reasons for organising this way – creating equality, spreading power and ownership in the food system, and empowering members.

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

Museum of Oxford  
LEARNING STUDIO  
**THE NEST 1:1 STORYTELLING SURGERY**

**Facilitators:** Joel Davies, Alice Lengereau, Rose Davis

Are you an agroecological producer looking to grow your business but on a tight budget and limited time? Come and book a free 30-minute session with our brand experts, Alice and Joel, and marketing expert, Rose Davis. In your 1:1 session, our team will be on hand to troubleshoot all questions on branding, marketing and storytelling. The Nest is a non-profit creative and marketing incubator for agroecological producers. We are here to accelerate the transition to a localised food system by supporting producers across the UK to sell and market their produce.

Blue Boar House  
INTER-VARSITY ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: EATING AND SHAPING THE WORLD: WRITING NEW NARRATIVES**

**Facilitators:** Carmen Posada Monroy, Charlotte Dufour

This workshop explores the importance of creating new narratives for understanding, conceiving, and reshaping food systems. Narratives are performative; what we communicate has effects in the outside world. Therefore, narratives that tell a different story about food systems are crucial for the transformations themselves. By exploring the new narratives of ecologies of food, we seek to shift from a linear and fragmented idea of food systems to a holistic universe where non-human lives also play essential roles in the creation, production, distribution, commercialisation, preparation and disposal of food. All stages of the workshop will include dynamic and practical exercises. This workshop is for communicators of all kinds across the real food and farming movement.

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
SANCTUARY  
**WHAT ORGANIC MEANS FOR ME AND THE PLANET**

**Speakers:** Joy Greenall, Helen Woodcock, Tim Downes, Sparrow Middleton, Seb Mayfield

**Chair:** Tamara Schiopu

Organic farming is the system that most effectively delivers our universal aims for food quality and health, genuine sustainability and environmental management, personal welfare and animal health. Despite being backed up by robust science, Government support and a well-developed market, organic production is static in the UK. This session will hear from people successfully involved throughout the food chain, telling what organic has done for them, and provide the basis for a challenging discussion on how to build on the successes and how organic needs to evolve to address the biodiversity, environmental and health crises facing the world.

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
HALL  
**WORKSHOP: INTERSPECIES COUNCIL: LIFE-CENTRED PRACTICE FOR LAND STEWARDSHIP**

**Facilitators:** Julian Ellerby, George Simons, Eddie Rixon, Emma Gardner, Heather Knight

The Roots and Rhythms project at Lopemedede Farm, in collaboration with multi-generational farmer Eddie Rixon, focused on restoring biodiversity and creating opportunities for deeper nature connection. Through life-centred practices, the project supported a shift from egocentric to ecocentric ways of working and being. This workshop invites you to experience one of these practices: the Interspecies Council. Inspired by Joanna Macy’s work, the session cultivates empathy for the living beings and systems that share our landscapes, encouraging a more-than-human perspective to guide future land stewardship.

St Aldate’s Tavern  
THE BLUE ROOM  
**AGRIWILDING, HOLISTIC DECISION MAKING AND PERMACULTURE: HOW TO BE A GOOD KEYSTONE SPECIES**

**Speakers:** Matt Swarbrick, Maddy Harland

Where is the cross-over between regenerative agriculture and rewilding? Within Permaculture we have Zone 5 – the land you leave to ‘nature’ – but a

‘set aside’ nature reserve is no longer enough in our current times. Zone 5 for wildlife/biodiversity needs to permeate all Zones, and also us. We explore how Permaculture and Holistic Decision Making can create biodiversity, meet our human needs, farm productively with nature, restore ecosystems, and build community. What do these patterns look like and how do they play out in the wider and closer landscape?

Story Museum  
THE WOODSHED  
**BUILDING AN ALLIANCE OF FOOD GROWERS IN DISPLACEMENT**

**Speakers:** Lina Isma’il, Ana Rosa de Lima, Anuka De Silva

**Chair:** Juliet Millican

This panel raises the importance of food sovereignty and regenerative growing for those who have lost their lands or are resisting removal. In the event of displacement or dispossession, the opportunity to grow food becomes even more important to personal agency as well as nutrition. The session will include a series of short videos from producers in refugee and internally displaced people camps. Panel members will share experiences from the Amazon, occupied lands in Palestine and from La Via Campesina who advocate for landless growers. We will look at what can be learned from existing peasant movements to support those struggling to cultivate in displacement.

Story Museum  
THE MAGIC COMMON ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: MOVEMENT-WIDE STRATEGY: WORKING TOGETHER TO CHANGE THE FOOD AND LAND SYSTEM (PART 1)**

**Facilitators:** Ali Taherzadeh, Christabel Buchanan

This is the first part of this movement strategy series which will bring together those working and organising in the movement for land and food justice in the UK, to explore how we can work better together to achieve the changes we want to see. We will explore what draws people to this movement and identify our common vision; explore what it might look like to have a movement-wide strategy.

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

Using a movement ecology framework, we will map out the broad range of approaches and tactics used in our movement and develop a shared understanding of where our different strengths lie.

Story Museum  
THE LINK ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: WHERE LIBERATORY GARDENS AND FARMING MEET**

**Facilitators:** Shama Khanna, Rae Hippolyte, Idman Abdurahaman

A soft space for conversations about working towards liberation through tending the land. Recovering a more reciprocal relationship to the land through farming and gardening can be nourishing on many levels. But what is needed to make all experiences working the land a liberatory act? Can flowers liberate as much as food? This session is inspired by new farms and growing projects emerging from urban centres, which take an inclusive, intersectional approach, prioritising meeting each other’s needs, alongside the needs of plants and the land. This session is a dreaming space for what liberation on the land looks like and how we can get there.

Cheng Building  
DIGITAL HUB  
**POLICY AND PRACTICE: NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF PESTICIDES**

**Speakers:** Denise Walton, Patrick Barker, Nick Mole

**Chair:** Barnaby Coupe

This session will aim to discuss the current ways in which pesticides are being used, and misused in a variety of farming systems, and the impacts of such use. The session will speak to policy experts and farmers who are involved in moving away from an overreliance on pesticides and discuss the current and future policies which are needed to hasten the transition to agroecological farming.

Cheng Building  
SEMINAR ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: CREATING SOLUTIONS FOR FARMING ON LOWLAND PEAT**

**Facilitators:** Vicki Hird, Tammy Smalley, Lucia Monje-Jelfs, Laura Stratford, Julien Etienne, Robert Caudwell

Lowland carbon peat soils are precious – from storing vast amounts of carbon to being a key wildlife, food and hydrological resource. Yet they are severely degraded, leading to soil and nature loss and greenhouse gas emissions. This is partly due to major horticulture, arable and livestock production which needs to change or move elsewhere. This session is led by the Wildlife Trusts, Soil Association, and Greater Lincolnshire Food Partnership. A panel of practitioners and experts who work with local growers will initiate a group discussion on key issues, and on how local dialogues, issues of place, and livelihoods matter. Small groups will then work on lowland peat production and solutions to discuss in a final wrap-up.

Ship Street  
LECTURE THEATRE  
**IMPROVING FOOD RESILIENCE: CONNECTING FARMERS, GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENS**

**Speakers:** Tom Pearson, Kelly Parsons, Sarah Williams, Tim Lang

**Chair:** Rebecca Wells

This panel explores how different aspects of food resilience – usually considered in isolation – can be connected. Farmers are natural experts in embedding resilient approaches on-farm. Food resilience is rising up national and local government agendas, in the face of food supply shocks and stresses. Those ultimately impacted – the public – rarely feature in discussions. What lessons from farm risk management and diversification could help inform approaches to embedding resilience? How can we ensure farmers and citizens are better represented in food resilience policy? How can farmers support their local citizens to improve their own resilience?

1pm – 1.45pm

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
SPEAKERS’ HALL  
**AGROECOLOGY FIELD SCHOOLS IN PORTUGAL: MISTAKES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Speakers:** Cristina Amaro da Costa, Inês Costa Pereira

**Chair:** Rachel Phillips

Since 2022, the Agrarian Higher School of Viseu, Portugal, has been hosting seasonal Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems Field Schools, open to everyone. Each session (Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring) dives into topics ranging from agricultural practices to social and economic dynamics, co-created with various partners. Participants include farmers, activists, academics, and curious minds. In this session, we’ll explore how these schools operate and share key insights for both Portugal and the UK, focusing on engaging more people and overcoming organisational challenges.

Town Hall  
ASSEMBLY ROOM  
**FARM DEEP DIVE: HOMECOMING – AGROFORESTRY WITH PIGS**

**Speaker:** David Carruth

In this session, the 2023 Scottish Young Farmer Forester of the Year, David Carruth, will tell us all about Brodoclea Woodland Farm in Ayrshire where he and his team practise an innovative approach to agroforestry. As well as explaining his award-winning work with "trees and pigs", David will speak about his own journey from conventional to regenerative farming – highlighting some of the challenges facing farming communities in the shires west of Glasgow. And of course, no venture into the lands of Rabbie Burns would be complete without a couple of poems along the way.

Town Hall  
OLD LIBRARY  
**FARM DEEP DIVE: NUNWELL HOME FARM**

**Speakers:** Francesca Cooper, Hollie Fallick

**Chair:** Jimmy Woodrow

Join new-entrant farmers Francesca and Hollie as they talk about their journey setting up Nunwell Home Farm in 2021. The farm is based on a share farming agreement with the Nunwell Estate and currently includes 100 native breed cattle, eight breeding



DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

sows and 300 laying hens. They also graze conservation sites owned by the National Trust and Wildlife Trust, and in 2024, they started a joint venture with a local chef to set up a butchery and shop. In this open discussion, they will share their struggles and plans, alongside financial challenges they have faced and the importance of collaboration.

Town Hall  
COUNCIL CHAMBER  
LIVING WITH LIVING MULCHES

Speaker: Mark Lea

Chair: Matt Smee

Living mulches offer an alternative approach for growing arable crops, with research showing the practice can improve nitrogen availability, reduce runoff, increase biodiversity, promote soil health and improve ecosystem services. However, adopting the practice comes with many challenges and considerations. Join this deep dive session to hear from Mark Lea of Green Acres Farm as he looks back at four years of living mulches work on his farm in Shropshire. Hear about the challenges Mark has faced, the key practical considerations needed to adopt this approach and understand the findings from field research.

Town Hall  
COURT ROOM  
RESEARCH IN NO-TILL VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

Speaker: Sonia Lee

Learn from fully-replicated no-till field trials at Newcastle University and East Durham College. Vegetables were grown in mulched cover crops (crimp rolled or mowed) or transferred mulches of silage or compost and compared with tillage-based controls. The trials include different scales, using both 4-wheel and 2-wheel tractors. Differences in yield and weed pressure have been marked, and monitoring investigates underlying causes, including weeds, soil moisture, earthworms, soil penetration resistance, and the release of nutrients from mulching materials. Some of the no-till treatments show great promise with minimal weeding and higher yields than the tillage-based controls

Town Hall  
ST ALDATE'S ROOM  
CONVERSATION ABOUT TABOOS RELATED TO SLAUGHTER IN ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

Speakers: Marthe Kiley-Worthington, Joanna Kudryńska

Join us for a lunchtime conversation between butcher Joanna Kudryńska and Marthe Kiley-Worthington, an experienced ethnologist and ecologist focused on animal welfare. Marthe has spent several decades studying the epistemology of cattle, horses, elephants, and rhinos, and now runs an ecological farm on Exmoor. Marthe and Joanna will be discussing taboos related to slaughter and directing their attention towards areas that are usually omitted with the aim of improving both animal and human welfare.

Museum of Oxford  
MUSEUM MAKERS SPACE  
WORKSHOP: DEER ARE FOOD FOR THE FUTURE

Facilitators: Jane Hull, Jade Hemsley, David Hooton, Kevin Miskella, Tim Field

Wild deer management is an essential part of woodland management and supports a sustainable approach to meat production. Within properly functioning ecosystems, deer play an important role for biodiversity and habitat quality. However, without any predators, large deer populations can have a devastating effect on their environment. The Forestry Commission supports land managers and farmers to manage woodland sustainably and ensure standards and traceability for a reliable and ethical outlet for the meat as a by-product. We want to workshop ideas to create a viable market for wild venison and ways to promote its benefits as a cheap and healthy source of protein.

St Columba's United Reformed Church  
SANCTUARY  
THE INTERBEING OF AGROECOLOGY

Speaker: Mick McEvoy

Plum Village is a Zen Buddhist Monastery and Mindfulness Practice Centre in the South of France. Within

our Agroecology farm which we call The Happy Farm we centre the interbeing or interconnectedness of food production, sacred ecology and the wellbeing of the farmers. This is expressed as a sacred trilogy of food, ecology and farmer. Our farm exists not just to cultivate seasonal, organic and nutrient-dense food for our community, but to help all those who cross our threshold to begin to uproot the notion of a separate self. Our farmers are invited to cultivate the reality of interbeing on the farm accompanied by humans and our more-than-human family. Our farm aims to help catalyse an individual and collective reawakening that we humans are part of this family of life and that we belong. That we are the Earth that carries us.

St Aldate's Tavern  
THE BLUE ROOM  
DEFRA ENGAGEMENT SESSION ON THE FUTURE OF FARMING

Hosted by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

Join Defra's Farming and Countryside Programme for intimate roundtable discussions on how farming schemes are developing, and how Defra can continue to work with the farming sector to design interventions, grants and support. Defra would like to hear your ideas and feedback to help develop some longer term thinking about how the farming sector will change over the coming years, and how government can support it. Example themes that might be covered: What is the role of Advice/Advisers locally to support farming businesses? How might we form local groups to support food production and farming at a local level? Please be aware that this is a small roundtable session focused on hearing your views, and spaces are limited to 30 people at any one time. It will be running all afternoon from 1 to 3.30 pm, so please feel free to drop in or out when there is space.

Story Museum  
THE WOODSHED  
REWILDING THE MIND: CONNECTING TO THE LORE OF THE LAND

Speaker: Manchán Magan

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

This 45-minute talk by writer and filmmaker Manchán Magan is an exploration of the rising connection people are feeling with the spirit, the lore, and land of Ireland... and its resonances with Indigenous cultures around the world. Ultimately, this talk is a celebration of the extraordinary heritage our ancestors have passed down to us and how it can inspire and empower us, guiding us in how to live, how to feel and how to relate to the wider world. It also explores the wider resonances of Ireland's heritage with Indigenous cultures and Vedic India.

Story Museum  
THE MAGIC COMMON ROOM  
BANNER-MAKING FOR A BIG SPRING DEMO!

Hosted by the Landworkers' Alliance

Join us for a relaxed lunchtime session where we'll be collecting patches, cloth and fibre for a banner which will be taking pride of place at our big demonstration taking place in spring 2025. Come and learn more about what we have planned, and don't forget to bring a contribution – whether it's a ball of wool, a pre-made patch, some colourful cloth, or just a creative idea!

Cheng Building  
DIGITAL HUB

RISE OF THE PLANET OF THE CHICKEN

Speaker: Diane Purkiss

Chair: Tamsin Blaxter

Unless you are eating breakfast, it's likely that the plate in front of you contains chicken. Yet the ubiquity of chicken meat is recent, arising from technological developments in poultry rearing from the 1960s that significantly lowered the price of the golden bird. Why chicken? The meat is very nearly flavourless, especially when raised in the new way, which involves confining the animals so that muscles remain undeveloped. To be sure, the rise of chicken coincided with a health alarm about the fat in red meat, so chicken could be framed as a healthy alternative, but the point of chicken is that it is hospitable to both novel flavour variations, and to the taste for blandness. Tracing the rise of this palatable descendant of Tyrannosaurus rex also illustrates

the ways that consumer choice has been subsumed by economics. Join Diane Purkiss, author of *English Food: A People's History*, for a lunchtime journey into the planet of the chicken and what might lie beyond it.

Ship Street  
LECTURE THEATRE  
THE SOUL OF THE OAK – CONSCIOUSNESS AND ECOLOGY

Speaker: Benedict John Pollard

Oaks display many fine qualities: appreciation, generosity, stability, resilience, connection, strength, presence, knowledge, wisdom, family, protection, care, meaning and wonder. Benedict welcomes us to envision a bright future, a land of plenty, a vibrant world of loving connection. He invites this by planting oak saplings of known provenance, grown from acorns of some of the oldest powerful veteran and ancient oaks of England. This talk explores Benedict's oak journey, as he weaves a story of common sense, observation, science, inquisitiveness, spirit, synchronicity, joy, delight and intrigue.

2pm – 3.30pm

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
SPEAKERS' HALL  
TRANSITION TO AGROECOLOGY – WHAT ROLE DOES ECOCIDE LAW PLAY?

Speakers: Jojo Mehta, Martin Lines, Rob Percival

Chair: Sarah Langford

Watching the devastation wrought on our food systems and landscapes can feel overwhelming. How can we push for meaningful change on a global scale? One promising solution gaining momentum is ecocide as an international criminal law. In September 2024, Vanuatu, Fiji, and Samoa, formally proposed an ecocide amendment to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court signalling a historic step toward holding environmental destruction accountable. The implementation of ecocide law could transform global food production by deterring harmful practices and creating a fairer playing field for those who farm

sustainably and in harmony with nature. Join our panel to explore how this groundbreaking law might drive a powerful shift toward regenerative farming, safeguarding the future of our food and ecosystems for generations to come.

Town Hall  
MAIN HALL  
WORKSHOP: LAND, FOOD AND SPIRIT – HARVESTING OUR EXPERIENCES

Hosted by the Conscious Food Systems Alliance (CoFSA)

This workshop will build on the panel “Land, Food and Spirit”, by creating a space where each of you can share your experience of being in relationship with the land as you farm. We will explore together how this relationship nourishes our farming practice and our lives. The event will also draw inspiration from interviews held by the Conscious Food Systems Alliance with leaders in agroecology on the “inner dimension of their farming practices”. The workshop will combine contemplative practices, small group exchanges and a plenary harvest to create a collective and diversified vision for how land, food and spirit can nourish and sustain each other.

Town Hall  
ASSEMBLY ROOM  
PERMACULTURE DESIGN FOR WATER-RETENTIVE, RESILIENT AND PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES

Speakers: Andy Wear, Perrine Bulgheroni, Jay Abrahams

Chair: Michel Pimbert

A panel discussion between applied permaculture design practitioners and farmers who use the principles underlying permaculture design to create regenerative, water-retentive and resilient landscapes. The panel members will describe how they each integrate, within their respective businesses, the benefits of water retention and purification, for soil creation and carbon sequestration within living systems, maximising biomass resource production and the creation of species-rich habitat.

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

Town Hall  
OLD LIBRARY  
**ROOTING FOR DIVERSITY: CULTIVATING FARMS FOR NEURODIVERSITY TO THRIVE**

**Speakers:** Karen Fisher, Jo Poulton, Ez Yaron, Richard Lewis

**Chair:** Jim Aplin

Neurodiversity is part of human biodiversity, emerged through evolution and is present throughout farming. Neurodivergent people bring traits and qualities that can benefit farms. However, misconceptions and unhelpful practices can create barriers that hinder the realisation of their potential and exacerbate problems. Overcoming these barriers can allow individuals to shine, and farms to prosper and become better workplaces for all. This session will be an opportunity both for neurodivergent landworkers to voice and discuss their issues, and for farming generally to learn how the talents of neurodivergent people can benefit farms if hidden barriers are removed.

Town Hall  
COUNCIL CHAMBER  
**WHAT MIGHT INSECT SENTIENCE MEAN FOR AGROECOLOGY?**

**Speakers:** Andrew Crump, Vicki Hird, Cristina Amaro da Costa

**Chair:** Natacha Rossi, Beth Nicholls

What does the latest research on insect sentience mean for our view of the ecosystem services they provide, such as pollination and nutrient cycling? Biodiversity is often valued by society in terms of benefits to humans, however, as we learn more about how insects experience the world, should this reframe our valuation and understanding of the role of biodiversity in agroecological systems? This discussion between those researching, working alongside and conserving insects will be an opportunity to exchange ideas and share new perspectives on how we value nature and ecosystem services through the lens of insect sentience.

Town Hall

COURT ROOM  
**THE ROLE OF TILLAGE: SCIENCE AND BEST PRACTICE**

**Speakers:** Iain Tolhurst, Richard Gantlett, Dominic Amos

**Chair:** Mark Measures

Ploughing and cultivations are coming under increasing criticism, and yet field-scale organic and agroecological farmers are dependent on tillage for crop establishment and nutrient supply, weed control and crop yield. Research shows that far from being damaging, cultivation and plough-based organic systems can maintain or increase soil organic matter levels, ensure good soil structure and increase biological activity. No-till methods have not proved to be commercially viable in the UK. We will hear from farmers and growers, look at the science and discuss best cultivation practice.

Town Hall  
ST ALDATE’S ROOM  
**PIGS, ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS OR ARCHITECTS OF DESTRUCTION?**

**Speakers:** Andrea Parry Jones

**Chair:** Christopher Price

Ask not what you can do for your pig but what your pig can do for you. Contrary to popular belief, pigs do not uproot everything. This session aims to promote the wide range of behaviours and potential benefits of pigs in nature conservation and regenerative farming systems. Exploring the versatility, adaptability and conservation opportunities of native pigs. A pig will graze, browse and consume berries and fungi, maintain a mosaic of bare ground, and help to maintain herb-rich pasture and shrub layer. These behavioural characteristics and their resulting impact are almost impossible to replicate using other forms of management.

Museum of Oxford  
MUSEUM MAKERS SPACE  
**LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGROECOLOGY: PEDAGOGY, LESSONS AND CHALLENGES**

**Speakers:** Isobel Talks, Rachel Phillips

**Chair:** Ian Rappel

Increased uptake of agroecological systems is desirable for environmental, social and cultural reasons. Underpinning this transition requires movements to develop training and learning opportunities. This open session will explore the rapidly evolving skill set required for agroecology, and debate the challenges and opportunities for agroecological learning in the UK. How can we build learning capacity to struggle and transform, not conform? How can The Agroecology Learning Collective (TALC) help the movement adapt formal education systems towards horizontal processes of learning and self-emancipation? What lessons must we learn from international examples of peasant-to-peasant learning?

Museum of Oxford  
LEARNING STUDIO  
**WORKSHOP: THE PATCHWORK OF BELONGING – COLLECTIVE PATCHWORKING SESSION**

**Facilitators:** Nessie Reid, Randa Toko

Come and create a patch for The Patchwork of Belonging: an ongoing collaborative, mobile patchwork quilt which inquires what it means to find new – and rediscover old – ways to belong and find connection to land, place and the food we grow and eat. Take an empty patch. Use any of the materials provided to create your patch or anything you have. Stitch your patch next to one of the existing patches in the patchwork. You are simply asked to respond to the question: How do you find belonging? In answering this you might also want to speak to the contexts that prevent you from belonging.

Blue Boar House  
INTER-VARSITY ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: WISE FARMING – A CONSTELLATION SESSION**

**Facilitator:** Jill Purce

Constellations are a way we can explore the web of relationships and perspectives that make up a system. They make it easier for us to understand contradictions or difficult

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

issues and provide an overview, as well as insights, into how we might resolve them. In this session, we’ll explore wise farming through an unfolding constellations process with Jill Purce. This process reveals in a remarkable and entertaining way, through embodying the allegiances and conflicts involved in change, new opportunities and possibilities for innovation in the future of farming.

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
SANCTUARY  
**INSIGHT FROM NATURE-FRIENDLY FARMING LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMES ACROSS THE UK**

**Speakers:** Jamie Jack, Jenny Phelps, Connor Nesbitt, Andrew McKee

**Chair:** Will Steadman

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation is supporting a cohort of projects engaging younger farmers and potential farmers, to encourage them to farm in nature-friendly ways. This includes Pasture for Life, with a regenerative internship programme in Scotland; FWAG SW, working with RAU students to help them practically engage with nature-friendly farming; and FFCC, with a programme to engage and inspire young farmers in Northern Ireland. All are also seeking to reach new and different people, and train and inspire those who will be role models. Join us to hear about these projects, from the young farmers involved, and what learning has been captured so far.

St Columba’s United Reformed Church  
HALL  
**A NEW HORIZON FOR THE HUMBLE VEG BOX**

**Speakers:** George Bennett, Steven Sidhu

Building a retail offer around customer choice needn’t be at the expense of farmer’s time, effort and leftover stock. George Bennett shares his experience at Sandy Lane Farm of switching from fixed-contents to customer-controlled

customisations of veg boxes using lean principles to increase sales while reducing admin, customer support, packing and delivering time and leftover stock. Steven Sidhu, Founder and CEO of Growing Good Technology shares how they are helping unlock the full potential of local veg box retail with a deep dive into the data.

St Aldate’s Tavern  
THE BLUE ROOM  
**DEFRA ENGAGEMENT SESSION ON THE FUTURE OF FARMING**  
**Hosted by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)**

Join Defra’s Farming and Countryside Programme for intimate roundtable discussions on how farming schemes are developing, and how Defra can continue to work with the farming sector to design interventions, grants and support. Defra would like to hear your ideas and feedback to help develop some longer term thinking about how the farming sector will change over the coming years, and how government can support it. Example themes that might be covered: What is the role of Advice/Advisers locally to support farming businesses? How might we form local groups to support food production and farming at a local level? Please be aware that this is a small roundtable session focused on hearing your views, and spaces are limited to 30 people at any one time. It will be running all afternoon from 1 to 3.30 pm, so please feel free to drop in or out when there is space.

Story Museum  
THE WOODSHED  
**WORKERS AND FARMERS UNITED FOR THE RIGHT TO FOOD AND FOOD SOVEREIGNTY**

**Speakers:** Sarah Woolley, Dee Woods, Paola Laini, Claire Ratinon

**Chair:** Sabrina Espeleta

In preparation for the 3rd Nyéléni Global Forum for food sovereignty – taking place in India in 2025 – building intersectional alliances between the food sovereignty movement and other civil society movements has been identified as of key strategic importance. The

struggles for a fair income and good working conditions are shared by food system workers and farmers alike, so let’s come together and discuss how we can build stronger alliances between the rural and urban struggles for food sovereignty from a working-class perspective, and strengthen the convergence between trade unionists within the food sector and organisations representing farmers and landworkers.

Story Museum  
THE MAGIC COMMON ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: MOVEMENT-WIDE STRATEGY: WORKING TOGETHER TO CHANGE THE FOOD AND LAND SYSTEM (PART 2)**

**Facilitators:** Ali Taherzadeh, Christabel Buchanan

This is the second part of this movement strategy series which will bring together those working and organising in the movement for land and food justice in the UK, to explore how we can work better together to achieve the changes we want to see. We will look at practical ways that we can work more effectively together as a movement; develop a shared understanding of power and representation within the movement; find strength in diversity, and overcome barriers to working together by developing a plan for a shared strategy.

Story Museum  
THE LINK ROOM  
**WORKSHOP: GRAPHIC JOURNALLING AND MAP-MAKING TO EXPLORE YOUR FARMING JOURNEY**

**Facilitator:** Rachael Durrant, Freya Robinson, Rosa Farber

Come and be guided through the imaginative process of visioning and creating a graphic story or map from your farming and growing-related experiences. You will be supported to develop your ideas using a variety of media, including pen/pencil, pastels, inks and collage. No creative or technical skills are necessary, but a willingness to get stuck in, get messy and experiment without judgement will definitely help. Children are very welcome to participate with support from their grown-ups.

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10TH JANUARY

Cheng Building  
DIGITAL HUB

**ORGANIC: THE PRESERVE OF THE PRIVILEGED?**

**Speakers:** Carol Alyce Adams, Sean Ruffell, Phil Swire, Sophie Kirk

**Chair:** Hannah Gibbs

Is organic the preserve of the privileged? We don't believe it should be. Healthy, sustainably produced food should be accessible to everyone – not just people on higher incomes. Sustain and Soil Association have convened a panel of speakers working across the food supply chain to explore the opportunities to make organic food more available, affordable to everyone and fair to farmers. We will delve into the challenges of achieving optimal scale alongside ethical practice, the market for smaller independent retailers and the responsibility of the larger retailer, and what policy shifts we need to see in support of enabling access to organic for all.

Cheng Building  
SEMINAR ROOM

**BETTER MEAT, MORE PLANTS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARMERS?**

**Speakers:** Julia Kirby-Smith, Holly Purdey, Jimmy Woodrow

**Chair:** Sarah Wakefield

In order to achieve our multiple health, environmental and animal welfare goals we need to think differently about the amount of meat and dairy that we consume and produce. But there are many real and perceived barriers to achieving this, and many questions about how we can overcome them. Join the Eating Better alliance for a stimulating discussion answering your questions on what 'less and better' means for farming. We'll explore how to make dietary change possible, and discuss the pivotal role that 'less and better' meat production, alongside increased plant consumption and production, has in reshaping the food system.

Ship Street  
LECTURE THEATRE

**CAN FAECES FEED THE WORLD?**

**Speakers:** Tristram Stuart, Laura Carter, ffin Jordão

**Chair:** Katie Allen

Ready to talk crap? Don't miss this lively panel session as we break the taboo around poo! Discover how we can transform human waste into a valuable resource to grow food, improve our soil and even improve public health! Is it safe? What are the rules? How much food could we grow? All this and more will be explored, so bring along your burning questions and get ready to get down and dirty with some seriously sustainable solutions.

4pm – 5pm

Town Hall  
MAIN HALL

**CLOSING PLENARY**

It's the end of another year at the ORFC together. Join us for our collective closing, where we'll take time to reflect on what we've loved, learned, and been animated by at this year's conference. We'll be taking a moment to ground ourselves for the coming months, and see all the action of the last couple of days one last time with our ORFC25 highlights video.

SPEAKER BIOS

**Abel Pearson**  
Abel is a vegetable farmer, nature-based facilitator, permaculture educator and land steward listening for the stories we need to reconnect to land, food and seed. He believes that the kinds of growing and farming techniques we need for the future must come from a place of authentic relationship to the land, reverence for the life it provides for us and the wholehearted support of communities, gathered around a table or a smoking fire once again.

**Abi Mordin**  
Abi is a founding member of Propagate and a seasoned food activist. She has been working across community and local food projects for over 20 years, and is passionate about food sovereignty and resilience. An experienced grower, facilitator, practitioner and researcher - Abi's inclusive and collaborative attitude encourages everyone to be involved in thinking about and co-creating sustainable food and farming systems.

**Abuela Daira Quiñones**  
Abuela Daira Quiñones is an ancestral wisdom keeper, entrepreneur, founder of the Amdae school of ancestral knowledge, and works with displaced women in the recovery of the traditions of the Afro-Colombian peoples. She fights for defence of the land and shares her knowledge around agriculture, health, and music. She has recently launched *La Fiesta del Plátano*, a banana festival devoted to sharing ancestral knowledge of food, seeds, harvesting and processing from different regions of Colombia.

**Adam Payne**  
Adam runs Awen Organics along with his partner Dee and an amazing team in Pembrokeshire. Together they grow 10 acres of high-quality fresh organic produce for local and national retail and wholesale on a vibrant and biodiverse small farm.

**Adam Swan**  
Since beginning work at the Soil Ecology Laboratory in 2020, Adam has been personally responsible for over sixty iterations of compost recipes for growing a healthy soil food web. Through countless experiments, Adam has helped develop methods to grow very diverse sets of beneficial bacteria, fungi, protozoa and nematodes.

**Agnes Rennie**  
Agnes lives and works on the family croft in Galson in the island of Lewis. Her grandparents were allotted the croft in 1924 when the village was resettled after WW1. She has been involved in crofting and community development all her life and currently serves as chair of Galson Estate Trust. The Trust owns and manages 56,000 acres in North Lewis. She is a passionate advocate of the intersection between culture and land.

**Alejandro Argumedo**  
Alejandro is Program Director of Asociacion ANDES, a Cusco, Peru-based indigenous peoples' organization that focuses on independent action research and analysis and fostering new forms of networking and alliance building. He is the founder of various international indigenous knowledge platforms cooperating within shared goals of protecting and nurturing biodiversity and promoting indigenous food systems and agroecology solutions. He has served in various expert panels on the UN.

**Alex Heffron**  
Alex is a part-time farmer in the south west of Wales and a full-time PhD researcher at Lancaster University researching contemporary agrarian politics and the financialisation of farmland.

**Alex Mackaness**  
Originally from a farming background, Alex has spent his career working on farming and environmental policy within Defra as well as the Soil Association and RSPB. He now works at the Labour Climate and Environment Forum where he manages their nature and land use programme.

**Alfy Gathorne-Hardy**  
Alfy is an agricultural ecologist based at the University of Edinburgh. He's interested in the biodiversity of managed systems, including understanding which biodiversity we might desire, and the socio-ecological drivers that might help or hinder us in achieving this.

**Ali Taherzadeh**  
Ali (they/them) is a facilitator, community organiser, and researcher working around food and land justice, agroecology and social change. They're

a member of Teasel Coop, a Cardiff UK land justice collective supporting queer folks to connect to the land and engage in climate action through nature connection, land-based skills, political education, and community-building.

**Alice Lengereau**  
A multi-disciplinary creative and new entrant farmer, Alice started her career in advertising working alongside partner Joel Davies before leaving the city to pursue her passion for food and farming. Her skills range from brand design and information architecture to web development.

**Alice Martin-Prével**  
Alice is involved in Terre de Liens and the Access to Land network, which work to preserve agricultural land and support access to land for peasant agroecological farmers. She explores in particular how land organisations and public actors can work together to change land use and management models, create more resilient territories, and foster solidarity and social land initiatives.

**Alison Sheffield**  
Alison is a Joint Wales Manager with Social Farms & Gardens leading a range of innovative projects to create a more equitable food system. She is a partnership developer, food lover, waste hater, mother of small people, and volunteer playgroup leader. She is also an enthusiastic and excitable veg grower, a Cymraeg learner, a quick learner full of curiosity, and a lover of the outdoors.

**Amber Lawes-Johnson**  
Amber has expertise in scientific research and policy across academic, NGO, and governmental sectors. Building upon her mixed farming background, her current PhD research aims to join the dots between practice, policy and science, to support regionally sensitive socio-economic and environmental public good outcomes for England's beef and sheep systems.

**Amro Hussain**  
Amro is a Senior Manager of Public Affairs at Humane Society International/UK, a chairy working to promote the human-animal bond, rescue and protect dogs and cats, improve farm animal welfare, protect

SPEAKER BIOS

wildlife, promote animal-free testing and research, respond to disasters and confront cruelty to animals in all of its forms. Amro has worked on the charity’s High Court bid to enforce animal welfare laws to prevent the rearing of ‘franken Chickens’ through fast-growing breeding practices.

Amy Dakin Harris

Amy is an artist and landworker who runs Remedy Fields, a cut-flower and herb farm near Glasgow. Reparative actions are the core purpose of the project, as well as creating a more expansive, integrated view of regenerative principles. She is also a director at The Wash House Garden, a queer-led food growing co-operative.

Amy Willoughby

Amy is a grower and manager at Plotgate Community Farm in Somerset, which she co-founded in 2015. The 16-acre farm is run as a CSA producing veg shares from three acres of hand-cultivated market garden, and an expanding mechanised area.

Amy-Jane Beer

Amy is a biologist, naturalist, writer and campaigner. She is a Country Diarist for The Guardian, columnist for British Wildlife, and author of several books including the 2023 Wainwright Prize winning *The Flow: rivers, water and wildness*. She convenes the Access Friendly Farmers and Landowners working group for Right to Roam.

Amy Quirk

Amy’s professional life began in horse racing, a commended career in policing followed before becoming a Director within the charitable sector. With ambitions to farm a BSc(Hons) ensued her dissertation focusing on farmers inability to produce local food negatively impacting native breeds, farm viability, welfare and the environment.

Ana Rosa de Lima

Ana Rosa works for the protection of Indigenous Peoples’ rights and self-determination. Drawing from her own ancestry she focuses on strengthening land protection and regeneration through Indigenous, locally-led approaches, amplifying the voices of communities. Through solidarity and allyship she is involved in building networks around regenerative practices and Climate Justice.

Andrea Parry Jones

Andrea is a Rare Breeds Survival Trust (RBST) Conservation Adviser. Working across all breeds of native equines and livestock, her responsibilities encompass working for the Approved Farm Park Network and Associates, aiding in and conducting various research and promotional projects, delivering conservation grazing courses and consultation reports, and promoting the uses of rare and native breeds in habitat conservation and creation.

Andrew Bovarnick

Andrew has over 20 years of experience in The United Nations Development Programme and is focused on transforming commodity sectors through the UNDP Food and Agricultural Commodities Systems (FACS) initiative. UNDP has a portfolio of projects directly supporting FACS representing over \$1.2 Billion, in more than 100 countries covering initiatives that focus on increasing the resilience of agricultural systems and food security for more than 3.7 million people.

Andrew Court

Andrew runs Cotes Lodge Farm, a 274-acre mixed farm in Staffordshire, with his mother and brother. Keen to move towards being carbon-negative and environmentally sustainable, Andrew direct drills his crops, integrates green manures, and finishes Aberdeen Angus and Wagyu cattle on a grass diet on the farm’s permanent pastures.

Andrew Crump

Andrew is a Lecturer in Animal Cognition & Welfare at the Royal Veterinary College. He studies questions like: which invertebrates might be sentient, and how does sentience relate to welfare? In 2021, he was part of a team that convinced the government to protect certain invertebrates under animal welfare law.

Andrew McKee

Andrew is a new-entrant beef farmer. Together with his brother, he farms 40-acres in Northern Ireland with a suckler beef herd of 24 PBR Irish Moiled cattle, striving to rear in a sustainable, low-input and regenerative manner. He is at the beginning of his regenerative agriculture journey and has used the Environmental Farming Scheme to plant hedgerows and the Small Woodland Grant to plant trees.

Andrew Trump

Andrew runs Organic Arable, a producer group of organic arable farmers across the country. Alongside developing long-term supply chain opportunities for Organic Arable’s farmers, the company also undertakes participatory on-farm research to support farmers at a technical level.

Andy Dibben

Andy is the head grower at Abbey Home Farm. He is responsible for the production of organic vegetables and fruit on 15 acres. He is passionate about feeding people, training his team of apprentices, and is dedicated to promoting the ability of plants and insects to replace agrochemicals.

Andy Neal

Andy’s research places organic carbon at the heart of soil. He is working with colleagues to develop a radically different way of thinking about soil and his work has featured on BBC Radio 4’s Inside Science as well as at New Scientist Live events. Andy is based at Rothamsted Research in North Wyke, Devon.

Andy Wear

Andy is a shepherd and blade shearer who manages grazing livestock to build biodiversity naturally. He has retrained in Holistic Management to produce food, fibre and fuel from Fernhill Farm and grazes his sheep on surrounding solar parks, conservation areas, and arable and dairy farms. He’s chairman of Mendip Hills National Landscape partnership and FIPL panels, redefining the role of livestock within our eco-systems, together with a passion for timely wool harvesting.

Angharad Wynne

Angharad has spent much of her life exploring the landscapes and lore of this land. She shares her learning and explores understanding and contemporary practice through retreats, storytelling gatherings, ceremonies, dreaming circles, writings and pilgrimages. She is a member of the Wisdom Keepers: Reigniting Ancient Ways collective and creator of Dadeni, a programme exploring the native spiritual traditions of Britain. She is a founder of ‘Animate Earth’, a new international animism collective.

SPEAKER BIOS

Anna Barrett

Anna (they/them) runs a regenerative market garden for Wilson’s restaurant in Bristol, UK. Anna organises with Out On The Land, the LGBTQ+ identity group within the Landworkers’ Alliance. Anna coordinated the LAND / WORKERS publication as part of the Cultivating Justice project, showcasing a diverse group of landworkers through portraits and interviews.

Anna Bowen

Anna is a farm consultant, freelance writer, and dairy maid from West Wales. She and her partner are contract farming 300 spring block calving cows on a grazing system. She is also a 2021 Nuffield Scholar, exploring the topic ‘Cow Calf Contact: Dairy’s Ethical Future?’ She was recently awarded Dairy Industry Woman of the Year 2024.

Anna Jones

Anna is a rural affairs journalist, author, broadcaster and television producer. She’s also a Nuffield Farming Scholar and a farmer’s daughter from the Welsh Borders. In 2018, she quit her staff job at the BBC to set up Just Farmers – an agri-communications project aimed at connecting journalists and programme makers with independent, authentic voices at the grassroots of farming. Anna’s first book, *Divide: The Relationship Crisis Between Town And Country* was published in 2022.

Annie Rayner

Annie is a director and cofounder of Planton Farm. She is a food systems expert with extensive experience managing farm-based projects aiming to regenerate our food system. One of her key current projects is Impeckable Poultry. Annie is a specialist in farm animal welfare, having undertaken a PhD in positive animal welfare.

Anuka De Silva

Anuka is a peasant activist based in Sri Lanka. She practices agroecology and agroforestry and is also engaged in seed conservation. She mobilises rural women critically affected by predatory microfinance and promotes agroecology to solve the agrarian crisis. She is a Gender Adviser to the Movement for Land and Agricultural Reform (MONLAR) in Sri Lanka and a member of the International Coordination Committee of La Via Campesina.

Ashley Wheeler

Ashley has run Trill Farm Garden with his partner Kate for the last 15 years. They have been growing for restaurants, cafes and shops, and they set up a box scheme in 2020. They produce seed commercially and teach courses at the farm. Ashley is a founding member of the Landworkers’ Alliance.

Atalo Belay

Atalo is an entomologist and project coordinator at Pesticide Action Nexus Association Ethiopia (PAN-Ethiopia). His work has expanded sustainable agricultural production including organic farming in Ethiopia by introducing agroecological solutions for smallholder farmers that help to reduce or eliminate the use of harmful pesticides from the production of cotton and vegetables.

Atenchong Talleh Nkobou

Atenchong is a Senior Lecturer in International Rural Development at the Royal Agricultural University. His research focuses on the political economy of agrarian systems, land tenure and food security. He is interested in critical approaches to development theory and practice, and was principal investigator for the study ‘Reversing the Gaze: Knowledge Stories and the Struggles for Community Land Rights in Scotland’.

Audrey Litterick

Audrey is an independent consultant (Audrey Litterick Consulting and Earthcare Technical). She works with famers, land managers and advisors to improve their fertiliser use and assists compost/digestate producers to improve their products and develop robust and novel markets. Audrey has developed practical training courses on the subject.

Augusta Lewis

Augusta is the Sustainable Food Places Coordinator for the Local Food Partnership in Carmarthenshire, Bwyd Sir Gâr Food. She is hosted by Social Farms & Gardens. Augusta is interested in inclusive participatory and systems approaches in sustainable food project design.

Ayms Mason

Ayms is an agroecological researcher, specialising in agri-tech and food and farming system transformation.

They currently work with Beyond GM and A Bigger Conversation on a range of project, advocacy and research work. They previously worked as a market gardener on a 2-acre plot in Worcestershire, serving a farm shop.

Barbara Smith

Barbara is an applied ecologist working across arts and science. She’s Associate Professor at the Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience and teaches Regenerative Design at Central Saint Martins, UAL. Her work focuses on restoring biodiversity, especially in farming systems, and connecting this with broader nature restoration efforts.

Barnaby Coupe

Barnaby is Senior Land Use Policy Manager at The Wildlife Trusts. Barnaby leads the organisation’s policy work on chemicals and pesticides, as well as working across food and farming policy and agri-environment schemes to realise The Wildlife Trusts’ vision of a thriving natural world. Barnaby also chairs the Agriculture Working Group for Wildlife & Countryside Link, the largest environment and wildlife coalition in England.

Becca Stevenson

Becca was part of the first cohort of students trained through the Soil Association apprenticeship scheme, with her placement being at Abbey home farm for two years. She has been at Five Acre Community Farm near Coventry for the last 11 years, first as head grower and now as farm manager.

Becky Grove

After working in film and advertising for 15 years, Becky took an MA in Social Entrepreneurship. She then created ‘Grounders’, a programme for young people combining seasonal jobs with food and farming education. This led her to FarmED, where she co-founded Emergent Generation in 2022. She is a Director of the CIC.

Ben Andrews

Ben (he/him) is an organic mixed farmer from Herefordshire UK and one of the founding members of Agrespect - a group that aims to tackle LGBTQ+ discrimination and share positive experiences of being LGBTQ+ within farming and the wider agriculture industry.



# SPEAKER BIOS

**Ben Grass**  
Ben is the Founder and CEO of leading natural wellness company, Grass & Co. They create award-winning mushroom supplements combining functional mushrooms with adaptogens and vitamins, and are listed in leading UK retailers including Holland & Barrett, Boots, Sainsburys, Wholefoods, Daylesford and more. Their nootropic drinks range is taking the UK by storm, and the three drinks are crafted with powerhouse botanicals and naturally juicy fruit flavours.

**Ben Raskin**  
Ben has 30 years of horticultural and farming experience. He leads the Soil Association’s agroforestry work. He also manages the agroforestry at Eastbrook Farm in Wiltshire, writes books including ‘*Silvohorticulture*’ and ‘*The Woodchip Handbook*’, and works as an independent consultant.

**Benedict John Pollard**  
Benedict is the Founder and Director of Mighty Fine Oaks. ‘*The Soul of the Oak*’ tells his story of connecting with oak through growing trees from acorns of old and powerful oaks of England. He weaves us a delightful web of observation, science, inquisitiveness, synchronicity, spirit, passion, joy and intrigue.

**Beth Bell**  
Beth works with the Food Ethics Council to join the dots across food policy, practice, relationships and networks, building equitable food futures with ethics, care and kindness. She is a co-founder of Carrick Greengrocers and co-chairs the Belfast Sustainable Food Partnership.

**Beth Nicholls**  
Beth is a Senior Research Fellow in Ecology & Evolution at the University of Sussex. She specializes in the behaviour and physiology of wild bees, and improving beneficial insect diversity in non-conventional growing systems, such as urban farms and vineyards.

**Boglárka Bozsogi**  
Bogi is a Communication and Policy Officer at Agroecology Europe and a coordinator of Emergent Generation, a network of young people passionate about the regenerative transformation of farming and food systems. She works on events, project management,

policy analysis, and research around agroecology, food and farming, and degrowth.

**Bonnie Hewson**  
Bonnie is the Director of Farming the Future, a funding collective that supports a shift to a fairer system of food and farming, and advocates within philanthropy for more and better funding for an agroecological transition in the UK. Bonnie started as a local food organiser over 15 years ago and has worked in funding a fairer economy for a decade.

**Bonnie VandeSteege**  
Bonnie is part of the People’s Land Policy. They aim to contribute to building a grass roots land justice movement that unites struggles around food, housing, environment and community. She recently published a book on land use conflict: ‘*Land for What? Land for Whom?*’ based on research in Scotland.

**Calixta Killander**  
Calixta founded Flourish Produce in 2017. With 56 acres of farmland, Flourish is a beacon of biodiversity with more than 750 varieties of crops in cultivation, an agroforestry field, a heritage grain project, rotating herbal leys and flower fields. An integral part of the Flourish ethos is to build strong, longstanding partnerships between the farm and its customers. The produce is directly marketed to restaurants, florists, bakeries, shops and through an on-site farm shop and veg box scheme.

**Carmen Posada Monroy**  
Carmen is a journalist and consultant with 10 years of experience in food systems, gastronomy, and sustainability projects. She believes food is the transversal axis of our lives, intersecting with politics, economics, territory, the environment, daily life, the familiar and the intimate. Using journalism and food story-doing as a tool for social transformation, she tells the intertwined stories between what we eat and the different spheres of society.

**Carol Alyce Adams**  
As the dynamic manager of Cardiff Farmers Markets, Carol spearheads the operation of three vibrant weekly markets and a captivating pop-

up market at Cardiff Metropolitan University. Beyond the markets, she also leads Food Adventure Social Enterprise Ltd, a groundbreaking initiative. Currently, Carol is involved in an exciting project focused on empowering individuals from the Global South to cultivate vegetables integral to their culture.

**Caroline Bennett**  
Caroline is the founder of Sole of Discretion, a fishmonger based in Plymouth that helps consumers identify and buy fish exclusively from low impact boats, and in so doing helping small-scale fishers thrive. She is also the founder of London sushi restaurant, Moshi Moshi that focuses on ethical, locally-sourced catch of outstanding quality. Her knowledge is informed by Slow Fish.

**Carson Kiburo**  
Carson is an Indigenous member of the Endorois People and a community organiser who works on Indigenous Peoples rights, youth empowerment, and global governance. Co-founder and executive director of Jamii Asilia Centre—an Indigenous non-profit focusing on climate change, biodiversity, Indigenous Peoples’ cultural preservation and their nexus in intergenerational knowledge systems sharing.

**Catherine Howarth**  
Catherine is a Principal Investigator at IBERS, Aberystwyth University with extensive experience of oat breeding and research. IBERS varieties are currently grown on the majority of the winter oat area in the U.K. She is currently responsible for 3 new varieties that are undergoing Recommended List testing and has done extensive research into oat quality traits.

**Catherine McAndrew**  
Catherine is the coordinator of the Landworkers’ Alliance’s Migrant Worker Solidarity Campaign, which aims to hold supermarkets to account for conditions on their supplier farms both internationally and within the UK. This campaign is focused on fighting drivers of forced labour facing farm workers recruited via the Seasonal Worker Scheme

# SPEAKER BIOS

**Cathi Pawson**  
Cathi co-founded Zaytoun 20 years ago, after working in Palestine’s West Bank with farming communities on land access. Zaytoun tangibly supports those communities through growing a market for their products, and through sharing their stories of farming under occupation.

**Chantal Wei-Ying Clément**  
Chantal is Deputy Director of The International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES-Food). She holds a PhD in Political Science from Carleton University, where she worked with communities in Europe and North America to explore how people can play a more active role in shaping their food systems. Her work focuses on local food system governance, agroecology, and the food-climate nexus.

**Charlotte Dufour**  
Charlotte has been working on food systems internationally since 2000 with NGOs and the UN (FAO, SUN, Food Systems Summit with 4SD). She presently works with the UNDP-hosted Conscious Food Systems Alliance Secretariat. She co-founded the non-profit Listening Inspires and Listening to the Earth campaign. She is an Ananda Yoga and meditation instructor.

**Charlotte Molyneux**  
Charlotte is the Team Manager for the Business Support and Innovation team at Devon County Council. In her role, she oversees the delivery of key food and farming support projects, including Future Farming Resilience and the Devon Agri Tech Alliance. Charlotte leads the Devon Food Partnership, which fosters collaboration and communication among food stakeholders across the county.

**Chris Clark**  
Chris and the Nethergill Associates team have analysed over 300 farm businesses and calculated the individual farm MSOs, a ‘sweet spot’ where maximum profitability can be achieved without compromising nature. Chris is co-author of ‘*The Less is More*’ and soon to be published, ‘*The Profitable Farm*’.

**Chris Walsh**  
Chris helped establish the Kindling Trust in 2007, focused on fund-raising and business development. Today he works full time for Kindling Farm where he is focused on coordinating volunteers, physical improvements to the farm and the development of a master plan for the 78-acre agroforestry system.

**Christabel Buchanan**  
Christabel is the movement builder for Shared Assets and has organised the Land Justice Spring Gathering for the last three years. This event convenes people from different parts of the land justice movement, building trust, connection and shared strategy. A lesson from the gatherings is that there is still disconnection between strategic activities and vision from those within the movement, and presence of difference in identity and tactics can prevent people from working together. Christabel is excited to facilitate an organising space as part of the Justice Strand, and to bring strategy into such an important event.

**Christine Delivanis**  
Christine is a Partner at Systemiq, leading the Nature and Food platform. She advises pioneering companies, philanthropies and NGOs on sustainability and systems change. Her work spans major corporate advisory and coalition-building projects, and on-the-ground interventions to facilitate the global food system transition, through carbon removal and regenerative agriculture.

**Christine Meadows**  
Christine combines farming, science, business and woodland management experience to provide practical and focused advice that helps land managers to look after their land in ways that are sustainable ecologically, financially and socially. She provides confidence and support to regenerative land management and landscape recovery across a wide range of farms, forests and community networks.

**Christopher Price**  
Christopher is the CEO of Rare Breeds Survival Trust. Christopher joined RBST in February 2019 from the CLA where he was Director of Policy and Advice. He is also the Chair of the Uplands

Alliance which aims to bring together practitioners, researchers and others involved in uplands policy.

**Cid Van Veerdegem**  
Cid is the general manager of The Food Hub. He made The Food Hub cooperative evolve from an organic shop to the activist wholesaler it is today. Cid draws the strategic and commercial lines for the future of the coop and monitors the company’s values and standards from the workfloor. In his spare time, he advocates for a natural cider revolution in Belgium!

**Claire O’Sullivan**  
Claire, co-founder of Contemporary Hempery, is a visionary entrepreneur dedicated to sustainable textiles. Partnering with Kitty Wilson Brown, she’s reviving hemp cultivation in East Anglia for luxurious, vibrant fabrics. Claire’s passion for ecological materials and processes drives the company’s mission to connect communities with land and sustainable resources.

**Claire Whittle**  
Claire is a new entrant farmer and farm vet, currently working with a range of progressive dairy, beef and sheep farms. She is a steering group member of the Nature Friendly Farming Network (NFFN) and is veterinary lead for the Dung Beetles for Farmers team. Claire’s passion is in regenerative farming methods and how this benefits livestock health and welfare.

**Claire Ratnon**  
Claire is an organic food grower and writer who has grown edible plants in a variety of roles including growing produce for the Ottolenghi restaurant, Rovi. Claire has shared her growing journey in talks and writes a gardening column for the Guardian’s Saturday Magazine. She co-wrote the pamphlet, ‘*Horticultural Appropriation*’ for Rough Trade Books with artist, Sam Ayre and her latest book, ‘*Unearthed*’ is out now.

**Clare Carlile**  
Clare is an investigative reporter for the award-winning environmental outlet DeSmog. She specialises in food politics stories exposing blockers of climate and environmental action, from misinformation to aggressive lobby tactics. Clare was previously co-

SPEAKER BIOS

editor at Ethical Consumer Magazine. Her investigations have been covered by the Financial Times, Al Jazeera, Politico, and The Guardian.

**Clare Hill**  
Clare farms at Planton Farm in Shropshire and has a wealth of experience at policy and corporate level. Planton is home to ‘Ultimate Chicken’, a venture exploring how to produce deeply regenerative chicken. She co-founded and runs the mentoring programme ‘Roots to Regeneration’ supporting farmers and food professionals through transition.

**Clementine Hain-Cole**  
Clementine is Head of Education at Natoora, a fruit and vegetable wholesaler that builds meaningful connections between chefs, growers and producers across three continents. Both her work and that of Natoora is driven by a motivation to equip all food citizens – starting in childhood – with the skills and knowledge they need to be part of a positive food system.

**Colin Anderson**  
Colin is the Associate Director of Research at the University of Vermont Institute for Agroecology. His work focuses on just transitions and social transformation through agroecology in pursuit of repair, regeneration, social justice and well-being.

**Colin Campbell**  
Colin works with the wisdom traditions of South Africa, specifically those based on our relationships with the ancestors and spirits of nature. Colin is one of few who were accepted, taught and initiated by some of the wisest pre-industrial African knowledge carriers who lived in Southern Africa. Sadly, due to the decline of this indigenous culture and its associated natural habitats, Colin and his brother Niall, are now amongst the rarest-known custodians of ancient sacred African knowledge.

**Connor Nesbitt**  
Connor is currently studying Rural Land Management at the Royal Agricultural University. He is originally from County Durham. Since moving to the Cotswolds he has started work on the GREAT Zerodig RAU project, begun working on a new agroecological market garden, and has learnt about soil health and working with new ways of horticultural enterprise.

**Cormac Dolan**  
Cormac is the Northern Ireland manager for the Nature Friendly Farming Network (NFFN). He works closely with farmers, politicians and stakeholders to promote a regenerative farming future that delivers for nature and production. Cormac has worked in conservation, farming and land management for 10 years and volunteers weekly at his local CSA.

**Corin Smith**  
Corin is a salmon farming investigator and campaigner, working to end the degradation of our marine ecosystems by open cage salmon farming. Through investigations, education, media engagement, campaigning and community empowerment he ensures local voices are heard and fairly represented. He advocates for direct participation and powers in development decisions. He supports industries aligned with an abundance of nature.

**Cristina Amaro da Costa**  
Cristina is a teacher, researcher, and beekeeper who brought the agroecology movement to Viseu, Portugal. She believes agroecological transition happens through knowledge sharing and dedicates her life to this cause.

**Daisy Martinez**  
Daisy is a PhD student at the University of Edinburgh. Her research focuses on the potential of polyculture to bridge the often-conflicting priorities of food production and biodiversity conservation. Her hypothesis is that due to their inherent diversity, polycultures can deliver high crop yields whilst simultaneously creating habitat for wildlife.

**Dan Monks**  
Based in South Manchester, Dan is a Director of Unicorn Grocery and MUD. They are studying Sustainable Food and Natural Resources at the Centre for Alternative Technology in Machynlleth, Wales.

**Daniel Tyrkiel**  
Daniel has a passion for turning organic waste resources into beneficial soil biology. Initially taught by Dr. Elaine Ingham, he has been running Soil Ecology Laboratory since 2019 where he’s been focusing on helping farmers rebuild their soil microbiome.

**Danielle Smith**  
Dani is the Connecting People and Landscapes Project Manager for Bat Conservation Trust. She has extensive experience in the conservation and education sectors, having worked on several projects in the UK and abroad. Dani is passionate about promoting biodiversity and fostering a sustainable future, advocating for the integration of wildlife-friendly practices.

**Dave Morris**  
Dave is a Viticulturist and Winemaker with a BSc in Viticulture and Oenology from University of Brighton. He sought a more expansive way of working, so embarked on several years abroad for esteemed Biodynamic Estates with natural winemaking techniques. He spent 9 years at Ancre Hill Estates converting their vineyards and winery to Demeter certification. He produces his own label ‘Mountain People Wine / Gwin Pobl Y Mynydd’, consults, and makes wines under contract for like-minded producers.

**David Carruth**  
David is the sustainable farming manager for the Future Forest Company and helps run The Woolly Pig Company. David is an agroforester and farms a 430-acre woodland above Dalry in North Ayrshire. David grew up on two family run dairy farms in the heart of Renfeshire. He went on to study environmental science and work in conservation and woodland habitat creation before inevitably ending up back in agriculture. Last year he won Scotland’s finest Woodland award for Farm Woodland.

**David Hooton**  
David studied Game Wildlife and Habitat Management at Sparsholt College, joining The Forestry Commission as a Wildlife Ranger in 1992. In 2003 David joined The Deer Initiative as Deer Liaison Officer for the East and East Midlands. David is currently the Deer Officer for the FC, covering East and East Midland where he works with a wide range of stakeholders, with a particular interest in venison supply chains.

**David Hughes**  
David is a traditional oral storyteller and environmental educator based in Scotland. He works with young people in the field of experiential learning

SPEAKER BIOS

and nature connection. His work as a storyteller focuses on the intersection between nature and culture, exploring our relationship to nature, others and self through a mythopoetic lens.

**David McKay**  
David is Co-Director at Soil Association Scotland, leading the research, development and advocacy of the charity’s policy positions on food, farming and land use north of the border. He sits on the Scottish Organic Stakeholders Group, the Forest Policy Group and is vice-convenor of Scottish Environment LINK’s Food and Farming Group.

**Dawn Dublin**  
Dawn is founder of Joyful Roots and the Black Butterfly Project, a cultural heritage and wellbeing organisation supporting people of African heritage and other ethnic and underserved communities. The agriculture and gardening project, promoting food sovereignty and following Agroecological and permaculture principles, sells weekly veg bags and is about to take over a retail space in Hastings.

**Debbie Clarke**  
Debbie has spent most of her working life at Manchester’s Unicorn Grocery, a worker-owned supermarket connecting thousands of customers with affordable, fresh and wholesome food, sourced with values. She combines shop duties with roles in comms, outreach and solidarity. Driven by a belief in worker control as a radical but pragmatic response to the ills of capitalism, she also helped found workers.coop.

**Debra Willoughby**  
A first generation farmer, Debra grew up in a terraced house in Bolton. Her love of the outdoors led her first to sailing then farming. She and her husband Tom recently gave up dairy after 30 years and now farm 150 hectares of organic beef and arable and 100 hectares of agroforestry. She is passionate about the environment and reconnecting people with land, farming, and nature.

**Dee Butterly**  
Dee is a co-founder and farmer at Awen Organics, a 25-acre organic vegetable farm in North Pembrokeshire, West Wales. Dee has also worked with the

Landworkers’ Alliance and has been active in La Via Campesina for many years.

**Dee Woods**  
Dee is an award winning food action~ist, Afroecologist and earth wisdom keeper. A passionate knowledge broker, ideator, pollinator and weaver who advocates for good food for all and a just food system. Her work meets at the nexus of human rights, food sovereignty, agroecology, community, policy, food ethics, decolonial research, reparations, culture, climate, and social justice.

**Denise Walton**  
Denise and her family took over Peelham Farm in 1993. They farm to encourage birds and pollinating insects to live on the land. They converted to organic following the Common Agricultural Policy reform of 2002, which facilitated funding. They restored hedges and fence lines, making sure they connected so birds and wildlife could use them as a food source or for protection from predators. Denise says there needs to be a balance between productivity for livelihood and productivity for wildlife.

**Diana Garduño Jiménez**  
Diana works at Nourish Scotland and is leading the organisation’s work on aquatic foods (aquatic animals, plants and algae) to ensure these are part of food systems transformations. She is particularly passionate about enhancing participation in decision-making through decolonial and creative facilitation methods.

**Diane Purkiss**  
Diane is Professor of English Literature at the University of Oxford, and William F. Pollard Fellow and Tutor at Keble College. Her most recent book is *English Food: A People’s History* (William Collins, 2022) and she is now working on a book about the English at sea.

**Dominic Amos**  
Dominic is a research agronomist specialising in on-farm participatory trials with a research institute, an organic grain marketer and a grain and seed merchant. His focus is arable systems, crop varieties, tillage and soils. Lead researcher on the living mulch trials investigating the potential of organic no-till in the UK.

**Don Kipper**  
Led by the formidable Greek-Serbian singer Dunja Botic and driven by an explosive rhythm section Don Kipper create a powerful sound drawing from modern electronic Romani club music and bone-deep rural folk traditions. Together, their unique sound has become both a blazing homage to the folk cultures they love, and a fresh take on global dance music.

**Donna Smith**  
Donna has been Chief Executive at the Scottish Crofting Federation since September 2023. Her role covers a wide remit of topics due to the diverse nature of crofting, with crofters not only cultivating and managing the land they occupy but also playing a role in helping maintain remote rural communities.

**Eddie Rixon**  
Eddie is the current steward of Lopemedede Farm in Thame Oxfordshire and is a fourth generation regenerative Wagyu Beef and Sheep Farm, building natural capital for a better future and collaborating with businesses to get a better connection to nature.

**Edu H. Nualart**  
Edu is a farmer and activist from the Catalan countryside currently living in Amsterdam, who is involved with the grassroots collective ASEED and member of the European Coordinator of La Via Campesina. For the last 5 years, they have been running the PLUK CSA farm on the outskirts of Amsterdam.

**Edwin Brooks**  
Edwin is the founder of ‘Ed’s Veg’, an agroecological market garden in Liphook, Hampshire and ‘Cow Club’, a community centred conservation grazing project. He is an activist and educator and organises with The Landworkers’ Alliance on a regional and international level.

**Elise Wach**  
Elise is a food producer and researcher, working to co-develop pathways towards more socially just, equitable, accountable and ecologically regenerative and resilient food and land use systems. She has co-founded and directed numerous community market gardens, is a founding member of the Bowden Pillars Community

SPEAKER BIOS

Land Trust, and is involved in the land justice movement.

**Elizabeth Keach**  
Elizabeth is the Project Coordinator for The Nest’s Fashion, Fibre and Textiles Series.

**Emile Frison**  
Emile is a member of the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES-Food), a senior advisor of the Agroecology Coalition, and an expert on agricultural biodiversity. He has spent most of his career in international agricultural research for development, including as Director of International Network for the Improvement of Banana and Plantain (INIBAP) and Director General of Bioversity International.

**Emma Gardner**  
Emma is a Quantitative Ecologist and Modeller at the UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology. She works with diverse knowledge-holders to build computer models that simulate how species use landscapes and explore how these might be used to help represent species’ interests in real-world landscape decision-making.

**Emma Restorick**  
Emma is the gardener and grower at Prideaux Walled Garden; a one-acre walled garden growing cut flowers, fruit, and vegetables in Padstow. She has had a keen interest in gardening and food production all her life. Emma is working on the restoration of the garden, with soil health at its heart.

**Erin Matlock**  
Erin grew up on a farm in the heart of pulse country. For over 15 years, she helped Canadian farmers successfully grow pulse and legume crops. She is keen on also achieving this with UK farmers, including those in the organic sector, with her role as the Research Agronomist for Processors and Growers Research Organisation (PGRO).

**Esther Hoedemakers**  
Esther is the communications manager for The Food Hub, where she works to make the chain between producers and customers as short as possible. Over the past year, she has become president of the board and has helped to write the cooperative’s bylaws and internal regulations.

As a freelancer, she helps to build communities and writes stories for mission-driven companies.

**Evi Landay**  
Evi has spent much of her adult life growing organic vegetables, whilst living in a community and attempting to keep her carbon footprint relatively small. Three years ago she started farming regeneratively on 45 acres of permanent pasture. Being part of the south west Scotland Regenerative Farming Network has been invaluable to her over the last few years.

**Ez Yaron**  
Ez (pronouns: Ez/they) is an organic veg grower, nature reconnection practitioner and facilitator in Devon with a passion for what regenerative growing can look like for land and for growers.

**Felix Kary**  
Felix is affiliated with Press Press Press, a community printing press based in Sheffield. Felix works within education working with innovative ways to develop a holistic curriculum.

**ffin Jordão**  
ffin farms worms, microbes, fungi and other multitudes in compost heaps. They founded criw compostio, a Machynlleth-based non-profit gathering things that rot to make compost to grow food. They practice, study, and teach ecological sanitation, water pollution solutions and human - waste - place relations. They research and write about ecological aesthetics and queer ecology, in the form of manifestos, zines, scripts and choreographic scores. Their mamiaith is Portuguese.

**Florence Mannerings**  
Florence has run Chilton Farm, an 80-acre dairy farm in Kent, with her family since 2017. Florence farms native breed cattle, has created herbal leys and does conservation grazing. Florence splits her time between farming and working as an NHS midwife. She is passionate about supporting small-scale, British family farming.

**Francesca Cooper**  
Francesca is a new entrant farmer and co-director of Nunwell Home Farm, a mixed regenerative farm which she runs with her business partner Hollie Fallick. The farm raises beef, pork, and

eggs and sells directly to customers through its own butchery and farmshop. Francesca is also a qualified Rural Surveyor.

**Francesca Price**  
Francesca is Executive Director for the Real Farming Trust. She is a highly experienced campaigner and communication and events expert with over 20 years of experience working in broadcast and print media. She also manages our Listening to the Land programme, which explores our reciprocal relationship with Nature and how this can support the agroecological movement.

**Francis Rayns**  
Francis is an Associate Professor at Coventry University. He is a specialist in the agronomy of sustainable farming systems with a focus on organic and agroecological farming innovations (including the development of peat-free growing media), soil fertility, selection of crop varieties, and the role of plastics in agriculture.

**Franco Fubini**  
Franco is at the forefront of a fundamental revolution in the way we all eat. As founder and CEO of Natoora, Franco is driven by his belief that by engaging people with the real flavour of fruit and vegetables, we can collectively transform the way that food is being farmed and supplied.

**Francois Beyers**  
Francois spent his childhood on the beaches in Cape Town, surfing and diving, fostering an enduring love for the ocean. This passion for the marine world led him to co-found Câr-y-Môr. Based in St Davids, Pembrokeshire, it’s an ocean farm, seafood processing business, and education outreach organisation. It’s also a Community Benefit Society dedicated to enhancing the Welsh coastline and community wellbeing.

**Franklin Scrase**  
Franklin is a founder member of the Tyddyn Teg workers cooperative in North Wales. Established in 2015, Tyddyn Teg grows vegetables and bakes bread for a 200-member veg box scheme and farm shop. The coop enables entry to ownership, providing a supportive environment for members to develop knowledge and management skills.

SPEAKER BIOS

**Freya Robinson**  
Freya works for Old Tree Brewery, a botanical kombucha and hedgerow wine business as the events organiser. On the side, she is involved in illustration and design. With a background in organic market gardening, she is passionate about bringing local drinks into the mix of the local food movement.

**Gabriel Kaye**  
As Land Projects Manager and Director of the Biodynamic Land Trust, Gabriel is committed to securing land for organic and biodynamic farming, ensuring access to community food growing. A founder in the Land Trust’s development for 13 years, she brings a lifetime of experience, having grown up on a biodynamic farm and worked in biodynamics in France and Ireland. Her passion is growing food for healthy people and the planet. Gabriel also serves as Executive Director of the Biodynamic Association.

**Gary Mitchell**  
Gary co-founded Cwm Harry Food Company and Cultivate. He is a senior manager at Social Farms & Gardens and recently became a County Councillor with Powys County Council. He is also Lead Member of their Farm Estate Cabinet Advisory Group and sits on the Welsh Government’s Food & Drink Industry Board.

**George Bennett**  
George runs Sandy Lane Farm, a thriving box scheme and farm shop. He is a passionate advocate for sustainable agriculture and how process, tools and retail thinking can make the farm financially sustainable too. He is a co-founder of Growing Good Technology, a state-of-the-art veg box platform.

**George Burgess**  
George is the Scottish Government’s Director for Agriculture and the Rural Economy. He has been in this role since March 2022. Prior to this, he was Head of Food and Drink from 2017, including responsibility for wider Trade Policy until 2018. George has an MA in Natural Sciences and a PhD on Electron Microscopy from the University of Cambridge.

**George McAllister**  
George is part of the scholar-activist

collective AgroecologyNow! as a political agroecologist. She specialises in food and farming in conflict-affected and disaster-prone environments. In recent years, she’s been part of a team from Gaza and the UK doing action research on Gaza’s foodways to strengthen food sovereignty at the urban and territorial levels.

**George Simons**  
George co-led the Roots and Rhythms project at Lopemedede Farm. As WYRD, a collaboration with Julian Ellerby, he helps individuals and organisations shift perspectives and imagine futures in, with, and as nature. As a facilitator and creative producer, George weaves together creativity, imagination, and nature connection with care and reciprocity.

**George Young**  
George, aka farmingGeorge, is an agroecological mixed farmer from South Essex. He runs an organic herd of native cows, with agroforestry, and newly planted woodland. The farm centres around building biodiversity, with a major ‘Wild Seam’ infrastructure project just completed.

**Gerald Miles**  
Gerald farms organically on the west coast of Pembrokeshire, and is an active campaigner for Food Sovereignty and against genetically modified crops and pesticides. In 2003 he drove his tractor all the way from West Wales to Downing Street to protest about GM crops and to raise support from fellow farmers.

**Giacomo Ranalli**  
Giacomo is a founding member of Emergent Generation. He is responsible for the organisation of events and for the evaluation of the network’s impact. He works as a sustainability consultant for Anthesis Group, advising agrifood businesses on embedding regenerative and circularity principles into their own operations and in their supply chains.

**Gian Marco Currado**  
Since April 2022, Gian Marco has been the Director responsible for Rural Affairs at the Welsh Government. The role covers food, agriculture policy and delivery (including the Sustainable Farming Scheme), Rural Payments Wales, and fisheries, as well as

strategic evidence, borders and inter-governmental relations.

**Giles Simon**  
Giles has worked at Suma, an equal pay worker co-op, for 6 years. He’s done a variety of jobs and currently works in the marketing team and picks orders in the warehouse. He’s been in the co-op movement for around 20 years, advocating for businesses owned and run by the people who work for them.

**Gina Lovett**  
Gina, based in Amsterdam, is a campaigner and environmental communications professional with experience across international organisations on issues from climate to nature restoration. She works on outdoor company Patagonia’s enviro campaigns in Europe. She’s driven by the need to protect what we love – nature – and putting communities at the heart of solutions. Her work involves developing alliances, advocacy and storytelling to inspire action from the ground up.

**Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend**  
Grazia has been a close colleague of Michel Pimbert for thirty years. They wrote and published together. They thought and conceived initiatives together. They laughed, danced, cooked and ate together. They listened to music, skied and walked to mountains, celebrated common friends and cried together when they were lost. After all this time, they are as close friends as two could be.

**Guy Singh-Watson**  
Guy has, over the last 38 years, taken Riverford from one man and a wheelbarrow delivering homegrown organic veg, to a national veg box scheme delivering to 70,000 customers a week. Guy is an advocate of using business to shape the world to be kinder, more considerate and more sustainable.

**Guy Thallon**  
Guy is Head of Natural Environment at Castle Howard Estate, overseeing a transition to regenerative agriculture and nature restoration over 9000 acres of mixed farming, forestry, parkland, and formal gardens. He is an advocate of sustainable business, sustainable food and sustainable farming.

SPEAKER BIOS

**Hallam Duckworth**  
Hallam set up the Dairy at Honeydale - a microdairy at FarmEd in the Cotswolds. He has implemented an alternative approach to dairy farming, focusing on cows with calves at foot, producing delicious luxury ice cream and milk.

**Hamish Evans**  
Hamish is an organic farmer in Somerset and co-founding director of Middle Ground Growers (MGG). After moving onto a narrow boat at age 16, he began market gardening on a half-acre scale and doubled this each season for 6 years, now employing 7 people on 16 acres at Weston Spring Farm. He has represented the National Farmers’ Union (NFU) as a young farming ambassador and now teaches and consults for agroecological farms across the UK.

**Hannah Blitzer**  
Hannah is a Policy Officer at the Soil Association. Prior to this role, Hannah spent five years working in UK and international organisations tackling the socio-environmental, legal and human rights issues associated with biodiversity loss, fossil fuels and corporate capture, most recently as the farming, chemicals and legal strategy lead at Wildlife and Countryside Link. Her LLM and PhD focused on the relationship between marketized agricultural policy and the right to a healthy environment.

**Hannah Gibbs**  
Hannah joined Sustain in November 2022 as Programme Manager for the Bridging the Gap programme, which aims to demonstrate ways to build better supply chains between climate and nature friendly food and people on a lower income. Hannah has a background in leading international development programmes, and community building and campaigns for socially responsible business.

**Hannah Lamb**  
Hannah is Co-Director and Head Grower of Yorkshire Edible Flowers. Based in Doncaster, the farm grows edible flowers that are sold across the UK and runs a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) veg box scheme and cut flower subscription for local customers. Hannah is also a Board member of CSA Network UK.

**Hannah Thorogood**  
Hannah is an organic, regenerative farmer in Lincolnshire, and regional facilitator for Pasture for Life in the East Midlands. Hannah teaches permaculture and regenerative farming up to university level, and champions multi-enterprise farms that boost resilience, create jobs, and diversify income. Hannah runs native breed pasture fed cattle and sheep, and has flocks of laying hens and turkeys. Recently opening the pop-up farm shop and regular farm tours at The Inkpot Organic Farm.

**Harriet Bell**  
Harriet is the Regenerative Farming Lead at Riverford. Having started her career focusing on mobilising people to action, she’s been taking a ‘learn by doing’ approach to agriculture since 2011. Agroforestry seems to be a prevalent theme but Harriet’s overriding interest is in building resilience to climate change within agriculture.

**Hattie Hammans**  
Hattie is an activist and academic. She works for Better Food Traders and is an active member of UK Grain Lab. For the past three years, she worked at the Centre for Food Policy at City, University of London.

**Hazel Healy**  
Hazel is the Editor of award-winning UK investigations outlet DeSmog. She leads a team of journalists specialising in stories that expose who is blocking action to protect climate and nature – and why. In her spare time, Hazel is a very low-yield veg producer.

**Heather Close**  
Heather runs a beef suckler herd with her dad, Philip, near Turnberry in Ayrshire. She joined her father in 2019 having pretty much zero experience of farming. It continues to be a steep learning curve but one that she loves! Heather and Philip are aiming for a low-input, low-risk, resilient way of farming. To achieve this, nature must be able to flourish.

**Heather Knight**  
Heather is the founder of Arteri Studio. They design award-winning impact reports, bold brand identities and creative campaigns that inspire

connection and collective action, working to co-create a future where people and planet thrive. They are a part of Roots&Rhythms, a project exploring nature recovery and nature connection towards a regenerative future for Lopemedede Farm and beyond.

**Helen Browning**  
Helen has been Chief Executive of the Soil Association since 2011. She is a Commissioner for the Food Farming and Countryside Commission and has had a number of roles in agri-politics, including the Government’s Policy Commission on the Future of Farming and Food (‘the Curry Commission’). Helen runs an organic farm in Wiltshire with dairy, beef, pigs, cereals, agroforestry and small-scale horticulture.

**Helen Graham**  
Helen is the former executive chef of Bubala, London’s most critically acclaimed vegetarian restaurant which she helped to launch over 6 years ago. Helen has over 12 years experience in the hospitality industry, and is a huge proponent of vegetable focused cooking for a more sustainable future.

**Helen Keys**  
Helen is a farmer from County Tyrone and one of the team behind the Growing Innovation Network, a Food Farming and Countryside Commission project supporting farmers to drive change. She founded Source Grow, The Veg Collective, along with her husband Mallon Linen. Helen is the Northern Ireland Vice Chair of the Nature Friendly Farming Network.

**Helen Woodcock**  
Helen co-founded Kindling Trust in 2007 from a background in grassroots environmental and community activism. Over the last 14 years Helen has helped develop and support the Kindling family of agroecological projects including Veg Box People, FarmStart, Kindling’s Market Garden and now Kindling Farm: a 78-acre agroforestry farm just outside of Liverpool.

**Henri Greig**  
Henri co-founded Pipers Farm with her husband, Peter, in 1989, creating an end-to-end supply chain offering a route to market for artisan farms, mostly in the South West. Pipers Farm

SPEAKER BIOS

is now run by their son, Will and his partner, Abby. Peter and Henri continue to rear Red Ruby cattle for Pipers Farm, on the same principles of farming harnessing the power of nature as they have for the past 35 years.

**Hollie Fallick**  
Hollie is a new entrant farmer and Co-Director of Nunwell Home Farm, a mixed regenerative farm which she runs with her business partner Francesca Cooper. The farm raises beef, pork, and eggs and sells directly to customers through its own butchery and farmshop.

**Holly Purdey**  
Holly farms 200 acres of permanent pasture and herbal lays with cattle, sheep, goats and chickens. Through recent management changes, including wood pasture and grassland restoration, Holly aims to be more resilient to climate change. The farm produces meat for the farm shop and works closely with a CSA veg scheme based on the farm.

**Hop**  
Hop trained as a medical doctor and is passionate about plants, mycotherapy, foraging, movement, scared sites, and correctly honouring the coming and going of souls. Hop is passionate about being in a reciprocal relationship with the UK’s native medicines. Hop is a lover of wilderness, the sea, the mountains and forests.

**Iain Tolhurst**  
Iain has been in organic farming for 50 years. His 8-hectare award-winning farm is a model of sustainability with various components of the Stockfree Organic standard – green manures, rotations, woodchip composts and agroforestry integrated into the vegetable system. The integration of crops, systems approach to P&D and biodiversity makes for a durable agricultural system.

**Ian Boyd**  
Ian has been a Cotswold Hill farmer for over 50 years. The control of the family farm has now passed to his daughter Steph and at the conference they will discuss the successes and challenges they faced during the succession process. The farm runs a herd of Pasture-for-Life, Organic Herefords, known as ‘Cotswold Beef’, alongside multiple farm diversification enterprises.

**Ian Rappel**  
Ian is the LWA-hosted Project Worker for The Agroecology Learning Collective, an emerging network of learning providers across the UK. He has a background in ecology and education and has previously worked for the Real Farming Trust, Cardiff University and various Wildlife Trusts.  
**Idman Abdurahaman**  
Idman is a community organiser, land worker and movement builder. She works with the Eating Better Alliance, furthering food and racial justice efforts in the sector. She also co-runs Earth Tenders, a community garden and archiving project based in South London. Collectively we are responding to the call for BPOC-led and affirming spaces within earth practices.

**Inês Costa Pereira**  
Inês is an agroecology activist and researcher doing a PhD at the Agrarian School of Viseu. She is also part of several collectives working to strengthen the agroecological movement in Portugal.

**Inês Tielas da Silva**  
Inês is a Research and Project Officer at IPES-Food. She is a specialist in the colonial legacies underpinning food systems today, with a focus on land and labour. Ines holds an MA in Postcolonial Culture and Global Policy from Goldsmiths University of London, and a BA in Political Science from the Nova University of Lisbon.

**Isobel Talks**  
After getting involved in climate resilient agricultural projects whilst carrying out her DPhil fieldwork in Bangladesh, Dr Isobel Talks began working on a regenerative farm near Cambridge during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since 2021 Isobel has worked with the LWA on a number of projects, most recently ‘Experts in Your Field’. She also teaches on the ‘Environmental Education’ course at the University of Oxford and carries out research on skills and training for agroecology as part of SKOPE.

**Jade Bashford**  
Jade has worked on community control of food systems for 35 years, helping to establish the CSA model in the UK, planning for local food economies and introducing new models. She currently works for the Real Farming Trust as a

Programme Coordinator for UK delivery and research projects addressing food poverty, agroecology and social inclusion.

**Jade Hemsley**  
Jade is a Land Use Advisor working with the Forestry Commission in the South East and London area. Jade advises farmers, landowners and agents on the improvement and expansion of resilient and financially viable woodland whilst achieving environmental benefits such as improving water quality. Jade’s background extends from farmland entomology to advising farmers on topics such as soil health and nutrient management.

**Jake Richardson**  
Jake is a PhD student based at the Royal Veterinary College as part of the UK Food Systems Centre for Doctoral Training. His research focuses on the history of broiler chicken production, food policy, and social movements in neoliberal Britain.

**James Norman**  
James has farmed organically since 1991, including 26 years on the Hardwick Estate, Oxfordshire. He is a Green Party councillor, a member of the Chilterns Conservation Board, and manages ancient woodlands in Kent. He was Agriculture Correspondent for Private Eye and is currently writing a book about global land use.

**James Robinson**  
James farms 300 acres of organic land in Cumbria with his family. The farm is home to 250 head of organic Dairy Shorthorn cattle and the land is made up of a mix of pasture and meadow, interspersed with a range of habitats, such as hay meadows, wetland and ancient hedgerows and woodland. The family won the 2022 Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) Silver Lapwing Award in recognition of their commitment to farm conservation.

**Jamie Jack**  
Jamie works with the growing Pasture For Life membership across Scotland, supporting the community, championing the power of grazing animals and building the organisation’s presence in Scotland. A part of this work includes delivering the Pasture for Life Skills Development Programme, seeking to provide high



SPEAKER BIOS

value and low cost training to new entrant and first generation farmers.

**Jamie McIntyre**  
Jamie is co-ordinator of the Woodland Crofts Partnership. A freelance forester and community development worker, he formerly worked as woodland crofts officer in the Community Land Unit, supporting the development of community-based woodland crofts, before returning to self-employment. He specialises in smaller-scale, rural development forestry, and ‘family forestry’ models in particular.

**Jana Rock**  
Jana is an architect and chef who studied Plant-Based Cuisine at Le Cordon Bleu. She teaches food workshops and is part of Chefs Manifesto, Chefs for Impact and The Royal Academy of Culinary Arts Adopt-A-School program. Jana also helps to oversee the sustainable transformation of the Calthorpe Community Garden.

**Jane Hull**  
Jane is the Area Director for the Forestry Commission for South East and London and a Chartered Forester.

**Jane Lane**  
Jane is responsible for her family farm in Cumbria and is a founder member and Chair of the Orton Fells Farm Cluster. Founded in 2020 we are a group of neighbouring farmers who came together to ensure the future viability of our family farms and community.

**Jay Abrahams**  
As a microbiologist, Jay spent some time in the UK wastewater industry working with inefficient wastewater treatment systems. Bill Mollison’s book ‘Permaculture: A Designers’ Manual’ encouraged him to apply permaculture design principles in the creation of constructed wetlands. Jay established Biologic Design in 1992, through which he creates soil-based, multi-species, constructed wetlands for integrated wastewater purification, resource production and habitat creation.

**JC Niala**  
Dr Niala is an anthropologist, historian, and writer whose work focuses on urban food systems and land access. Drawing from her Kenyan heritage of

pastoralism, agriculture, and wetland stewardship, her research explores urban and peri-urban agriculture, integrating plants and livestock. She revitalises urban spaces by using plants as living archives. She is a postdoctoral affiliate at the University of Oxford.

**Jen Hunter**  
Jen, a passionate advocate for wool and regenerative farming, aims to reposition wool as a primary product rather than a by-product of the sheep meat industry. At Fernhill Farm in Somerset, Jen and her partner Andy manage a flock selectively bred for fine fibre, resilience, and their ability to enhance biodiversity.

**Jenna Hegarty**  
Jenna is responsible for the Nature Friendly Farming Network’s (NFFN) UK Policy work. Through targeted engagement with policy-makers, farming stakeholders and wider civil society actors, Jenna and her team work to secure positive change in farming policy and legislation. The NFFN’s membership base of progressive farmers actively shapes the organisation’s policy priorities, bringing vital practical experience on what works for farmers and the environment.

**Jenny Goodman**  
Jenny qualified as a doctor in 1982 and rapidly became disillusioned with orthodox medicine’s inability to heal the sick, prevent illness or enquire about causes. She retrained in Ecological Medicine, using Nutrition (putting the good stuff back in) and Detoxification (removing environmental pollutants) to restore health. It works - and does no harm.

**Jenny Phelps**  
Jenny is a Fellow of the Royal Agricultural Society for England, Team Leader and Senior Farm Environment Advisor for Gloucestershire Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group. She has project managed many initiatives informing farming and land use policy over 30 years, including the GREAT Zerodig Earth Project at the RAU, where she will also be teaching Applied Farmland Ecology for the MSc Agroecology.

**Jerry Alford**  
Jerry is Senior Farming Advisor at

the Soil Association. He has a wealth of experience in arable and mixed farming having run the family farm in Devon for 25 years. Jerry is interested in a systems approach to farming, looking at farms as a whole system rather than just a mix of enterprises or a series of crops in rotation.

**Jess Abis**  
Jess is co-director of The Nest and a consultant with The Regeneratives. She weaves together a background in food business and a passion for agroecology to support farmers, producers and brands to grow their businesses in a way which is rooted in regeneration.

**Jill Montgomery**  
Jill works on agri-environment policy development and related projects for Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL), a membership body that facilitates input to government policy and cross-sectoral partnerships. Jill coordinates the regional Sustainable Agriculture Policy working group, has published research on climate adaptation, and formerly managed the family farm succession planning.

**Jill Purce**  
Jill is recognised internationally as the pioneer of both the Systemic Constellation and Healing Voice movements. She re-discovered ancient vocal techniques, group chant, and the spiritual potential of the voice for healing and meditation. Her constellation work with families resolves and removes inherited ancestral traumas. With issues, her process reveals conflicting elements and their possible resolutions. She is author of *The Mystic Spiral*, *Overtone Chanting Meditations*, and *Healing Voice*.

**Jim Aplin**  
Jim has worked in horticulture, woodland and other land work since the 1990s. He has been an organic grower since 2000 when he helped his partner set up Hotchpotch Organics, a small business selling direct in Gloucestershire and Worcestershire. He was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) in 2017 and has been director of the Organic Growers Alliance since 2018.

SPEAKER BIOS

**Jimmy Woodrow**  
Jimmy is Executive Director of Pasture for Life, an organisation accelerating the transition to agroecological livestock systems. Jimmy sits on the Abattoir Sector Group Steering Group, Dynamic Food Procurement Advisory Board, Board of Big Chalk and a Trustee of Woodlands Farm Trust, a 100-acre urban farm in Greenwich, London.

**Jo Kamal**  
Jo (they/she) is a commercial food grower and political organiser mobilising on anti-oppression and liberatory work within the agroecology movement. They have a background in decolonial research and organising towards racial justice. They are a co-director of compost and soil cooperative Compost Mentis, and grow food at an agroecological vegetable farm in Hampshire.

**Jo Poulton**  
Jo is the co-ordinator of the Basic Income for Farmers (BI4FARMERS) campaign, a collective of farmers, growers and farmworkers advocating for a guaranteed income for all agricultural workers in the UK. Jo is also a neurodivergent, new entrant, landless, organic veg grower working with Transition Together organising peoples assemblies.

**Jo Riggall**  
Jo is the Grasslands Advocacy Officer at Plantlife, the global charity working to secure a world rich in wild plants and fungi. Plantlife champions and accelerates conservation action with a priority focus on restoring species-rich grasslands, by working at the heart of a network of individuals and organisations.

**Joanna Kudry ska**  
Joanna is a documentary photographer and visual communication specialist. Her work frequently addresses taboos present in communities she lives in. During a career break, she trained in butchery, developed an interest in agroecology, and is going to reflect on her experiences working in the British meat industry.

**Joel Davies**  
Previously working with Alice Lengereau as a creative duo in branding and advertising, Joel is now a new entrant organic farmer. Also a documentary photographer, he uses his brand and storytelling skills to

show how farming communities are taking on the responsibility of feeding the world whilst regenerating the land.

**John Powell**  
John is Head of the Agriculture Sectors Team in DEFRA, a post he has held since March 2020. He joined The UK’s Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in 1983 and until 1999 worked in various advisory and policy leadership roles. From 1999 to 2017 he worked as an advisor to over 15 EU candidate countries on the establishment of EU agricultural policies and institutions. He re-joined DEFRA in 2017 and has worked on future farming policy, EU Exit and the Environmental Land Management schemes.

**John Seed**  
John is a partner at Woodend Farming Partnership, a family-run farm in the Scottish Borders dedicated to advancing regen agriculture. John blends traditional knowledge with modern practices like reduced tillage, cover cropping and agroforestry. The farm uses renewable energy technologies, and John has recently introduced a Bokashi system to upgrade poultry manure, improving nitrogen and phosphate use while reducing emissions and enhancing soil carbon through the addition of straw and woodchip.

**Johnnie Balfour**  
Johnnie champions the restorative power of grazing on pasture in his role as chair of Pasture For Life and as managing partner at Balbirnie Home Farms with a herd of 200 suckler cows.

**Jojo Mehta**  
Jojo co-founded Stop Ecocide alongside barrister and legal pioneer the late Polly Higgins, to support the establishment of ecocide as a crime at the International Criminal Court. She has overseen remarkable growth while coordinating legal developments, diplomatic traction and public narrative. She is convenor of the Independent Expert Panel for the Legal Definition of Ecocide.

**Jonathan Baker**  
Jonathan is Head of Programme Policy Engagement and Strategy in Defra’s Future Farming and Countryside Programme. He heads up the team responsible for cross-cutting policy across the Agriculture

Bill, overarching policy across the agricultural transition period and the strategic direction of the reforms to England’s agricultural policy. Prior to working in Defra, he was a Senior Land Use Advisor at the Country Land and Business Association (CLA) where he led on environmental and land use policy.

**Jonty Brunyee**  
Jonty is an agroecological farmer, mentor and adviser. He is also the facilitator of the Regenerative Agriculture Accelerator Programme (RAAP) in the Cotswolds and Director of the Emergent Generation youth network. He co-founded the North East Cotswolds Farmer Cluster and championed agroecological learning at the Royal Agricultural University and FarmED.

**Josh Doble**  
Josh is the Policy Manager for Community Land Scotland. He leads on policy advocacy and development to ensure that the benefits of community ownership and further land reform are understood at a national and regional level. Josh has previous experience in research and policy within government and academia, with a particular interest in the politics of land and race in postcolonial societies.

**Josh Smith**  
Josh helps run Goodery CIC, a veg box company and market garden in Norwich, Norfolk. An accidental business person with a background in environmental science, international development and hospitality, Josh has a firm belief that relationships come first in business and that the truth sets us free.

**Josiah Meldrum**  
Josiah is the co-founder of Hodmedods, which works with farmers to bring local grains and legumes to customers in the UK.

**Joy Greenall**  
Joy is an organic upland livestock farmer and conservation adviser, returning home to Shropshire and her first love farming, after working for Wildlife Trusts, Natural England, and for the Duchy of Cornwall as Sustainable Agriculture Officer. She is a coordinator for a local community initiative, Land, Life and Livelihood and Clun Forest Farmers.

SPEAKER BIOS

**Judith Hutchison**  
Judith’s family have been farming in Dumfriesshire and Lanarkshire for over 200 years. She was involved in farm technical and financial benchmarking for over 12 years. She now farms 950 acres with husband Tom and son Duncan running a hill beef suckler and sheep enterprise. Her ‘lightbulb moment’ was a Joel Williams talk in 2018 and she’s made soil health central to the farm enterprise ever since.

**Jules Acton**  
Jules is a writer and an ambassador for the Woodland Trust.

**Julia Aglionby**  
Julia chairs the Project Board of Our Upland Common’s run by the Foundation for Common Land. An experienced negotiator of multi-partite stewardship schemes on Commons, Julia is a Professor of Practice at Cumbria University and trustee of Susan’s Farm, a care Farm in Cumbria where she lives.

**Julia Kirby-Smith**  
Julia is Executive Director at Better Food Traders (BFT), the UK-wide network for retailers who sell locally-grown, planet-friendly produce. BFT offers specialist training, business advice, peer-learning, micro grants, and coordinated campaigns and marketing. Julia is also Chair of the Eating Better Alliance.

**Julian Ellerby**  
Julian co-led the Roots and Rhythms project at Lopemedede Farm. As WYRD, collaborating with George Simons, he helps individuals and organisations shift perspectives and imagine futures in, with, and as nature. As a facilitator and designer, Julian guides people through experiences of more-than-human futures and nature connection to foster transformative change with care.

**Julie Baber**  
Julie has a small farm in her native Somerset where she raises traditional breed sheep for wool, slow grown hogget, and conservation grazing. She also writes freelance articles for the Sustainable Food Trust and other organisations.

**Julien Etienne**  
Julien is an independent consultant specialising in food and farming policy. He is a sociologist by background, and has worked as an academic at the London School of Economics and an adviser at the Food Standards Agency before becoming a consultant. He has been co-leading with Laura Stratford the ‘Future of Food in the Lincolnshire Fens’ project.

**Juliet Millican**  
Juliet is co-ordinator of Re-Alliance, a UK-based global network that promotes regenerative response to disaster and displacement. As a coalition of regenerative practitioners, educators, humanitarian and aid workers, and policy makers, they build and share knowledge on food growing, eco-building, water harvesting and community led approaches to Settlement design.

**Karen Fisher**  
Karen (Ren) is a Farming Advisor at the Soil Association. She delivers advice and projects related to soil health, biodiversity, nature and climate friendly farming. She was diagnosed with ADHD as an adult and has trained to be an ADHD coach with the ADHD Foundation.

**Kate Bowman**  
Kate is a craftsperson who works with people of all ages and abilities to visualise systems and communally create. She founded Press Press Press - a micro, mobile, radical community printing press that celebrates experimental processes, growing community, and the political nature of making things through the traditional craft of printmaking.

**Kate Collyns**  
Kate runs Grown Green, a 2-hectare organic market garden in Wiltshire. She started the business in 2011 on rented land following a two-year apprenticeship on a mixed organic farm near Swindon. The second edition of her book, *How To Start a Market Garden*, is due out in October 2025.

**Katie Allen**  
Katie is a PhD researcher at the University of Leeds, specialising in the composting and reuse of human

feces for sustainable crop production. Her research explores the impact of humanure on crop growth and soil health, and aims to promote the safe use of this resource for food production.

**Katie Hastings**  
Katie is the Wales Coordinator for the Gaia Foundation’s Seed Sovereignty Programme. She is working to revive a more resilient and diverse seed system, alongside farmers, growers and seed activists.

**Kay Johnson**  
Kay was raised on a small farm in Lancashire and has developed and delivered nutrition programmes in the UK and overseas for over 30 years. Kay believes in ‘food fairness for all’ and founded the Larder 10 years ago with the aim of making fresh local produce affordable to people on low incomes without farmers bearing the cost. The Larder has received several awards for its pioneering work and in 2020 Kay was awarded an MBE for Services to Nutrition.

**Kelly Parsons**  
Kelly is a Research Associate in the The Medical Research Council Epidemiology Unit at the University of Cambridge. Her research area is the intersection of food systems and policy, with a particular focus on policy processes and governance structures, and efforts to achieve more connected policymaking on food. She has a PhD in food policy and a Masters in food and nutrition policy from the Centre for Food Policy at City, University of London.

**Kevin Miskella**  
Kevin is a recreational stalker who, having achieved 5 star rating from the Food Standards Agency, has set up his own small processing unit and larder at home to allow him to process and sell his venison to the local community.

**Keziah Suskin**  
Keziah is a first generation, migrant, biodynamic and organic livestock farmer. Keziah runs a grassfed cow and calf, raw milk micro dairy. Alongside the dairy, Keziah raises beef cattle, pigs and sheep for fibre and meat.

SPEAKER BIOS

The main mission of Keziah’s farm is ensuring high animal welfare, habitat management and restoration as well as soil rehabilitation and fertility building through interspecies grazing systems within a mixed farm organism.

**Kim Graham**  
Kim is the Research Coordinator at Shared Assets, an infrastructure organisation working to create a socially just future through practical projects that build new relationships between people and the land. They’re interested in using participatory research to build collective knowledge about the impacts of stewarding land for the common good.

**Konkankoh Joshua**  
Konkankoh is an indigenous environmental leader who weaves networks that enhance South-North Partnerships as a social entrepreneur and consultant providing advisory services in trust relations for quality and impact in community development, education and social governance. He founded Better World Cameroon and Bafut Ecovillage which became a UN-recognized reference center for sustainability, a model of environmentalism “the African Way”.

**Laura Carter**  
Laura is a UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) Future Leader Fellow and Professor of Environmental Pollution at the University of Leeds.

**Laura Stratford**  
Laura coordinates the Greater Lincolnshire Food Partnership, which takes a holistic perspective on the food system, rooted in place and community. She attends to and advocates for local food networks; addressing health and economic inequalities through better diets; and improving social and environmental connection through food. Her background is in education, community and permaculture.

**Laura Vita**  
Laura is the Project Developer and Knowledge Translator for the Ocean Incubator Network.

**Laura Wallwork**  
Laura is the biodynamic farmer at Coleg Plas Dwbl, a Ruskin Mill Trust provision in Pembrokeshire for young people of 100 acres of diverse pasture. She also studies The Mineral Kingdom as part of the Ruskin Mill Centre for Research. With a Masters in Science Communication and an understanding of the Goethean approach, Laura is as humanity (in all senses of the word) via soil, soul and spirit.

**Lawrence Woodward**  
Lawrence is co-founder and former director of the Organic Research Centre and served as director for 30 years. He has played a pivotal role in the strategic and practical development in the organic movement and sector in the UK and internationally. He continues to advise a wide-range of organisations including Beyond GM and Whole Health Agriculture. He was awarded an OBE in 2001 for services to organic farming.

**Leonie Nimmo**  
Leonie is the Executive Director of GM Freeze - the UK membership organisation campaigning against genetically modified plants, animals and other organisms. She is also a passionate advocate for Food and Seed Sovereignty.

**Liba Ravindran**  
Liba is a spoken word poet, community organiser and social justice activist of Sri Lankan Tamil heritage, born in Norway and presently living in Southgate, North London. He founded the Anti-Oppression Circle in 2020 which is an intersectional justice network led by people of global majority heritage in the UK.

**Lídia Cabral**  
Lídia is a research Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies and founding member of the Food Equity Centre. Her work focuses on equity, justice and sustainability in agrifood systems with an emphasis on the politics of knowledge. Most of her research and collaborations are currently located in Brazil and the UK.

**Liis Nukis**  
Liis works with the Twinning Project put on by the Real Farming Trust to

tackle the divide between urban and rural communities through food and social justice. She is also a first-generation farmer and the Land and Projects Officer for the Biodynamic Land Trust.

**Lili Balogh**  
Lili is president of Agroecology Europe and the Hungarian Agroecology Network Association since 2022. She is a bioengineer and agronomical engineer, promoting agroecology and regenerative food systems and strengthening the Hungarian agroecology movement. On her own farm in Hungary she applies holistic management, regenerative agriculture, permaculture, and agroecological principles.

**Lina Isma’il**  
Lina is a Palestinian food sovereignty activist and co-founder of the Palestinian Agroecological Forum. Lina supervised studies on Food Sovereignty in Palestine, and the documentary ‘*Untold Revolution: Food Sovereignty in Palestine*’. She is also a co-author of the guidebook ‘*Conscious Choices: A Guidebook to Ethical Shopping in Palestine*’.

**Lindsay Duncan**  
Lindsay is World Animal Protection UK’s farming campaigns manager working toward a food system that is kind for people, the planet, and animals. Lindsay recently worked on World Animal Protection’s Confined in Cruelty research, which called for the UK government to stop the expansion of factory farming and instead, redirect funding to systems that support regenerative farming and that can offer plant-based alternatives alongside higher-welfare animal products.

**Lindsay Whistance**  
Lindsay is a Senior Livestock Researcher at the Organic Research Centre focusing on how farming systems can offer farmed animals a ‘life worth living’. This includes enriched landscapes which offer valid choices to fulfil animals’ wants and needs, offering some autonomy from the human and respecting their fundamental role in ecological systems.

SPEAKER BIOS

**Lisa Morgans**  
Dr Lisa Morgans is a senior lecturer in Animal Health and Welfare at the Royal Agricultural University (RAU). She is also a core part of the Cultured Meat & Farmers team, and is leading on the farmer focus groups and partner farm process. Lisa is a qualified veterinarian who specialised in farm animal work. Her PhD explored a participatory, farmer-led approach to help dairy farmers reduce their reliance on antimicrobials. Before joining RAU, Lisa worked for Innovation for Agriculture (IfA).

**Loa Niumeitolu**  
Loa is a poet, community organiser, educator and farmer. She currently is a student of filmmaking. Loa lives in Berkeley, Huchuin, Eastbay, San Francisco Bay Area, California, and she follows the Indigenous leadership of the Lisjan Nation. She is a fierce To'a for Pasifika self-determination.

**Louise Hackett**  
Louise is development lead for the Woodland Trust's 'Sherwood Treescape' in Nottinghamshire. An advocate for landscape scale conservation, Louise has over 15 years' experience working in conservation; specialising in ancient woodland restoration, ancient tree management, and wood pasture systems.

**Lucia Monje-Jelfs**  
Lucia is a Senior Policy Officer at the Soil Association, focusing on farming and land use issues, including horticulture. She is co-author of the recent report '*Home-grown: A roadmap to resilient fruit and vegetable production in England*', produced in collaboration with Sustain and the Wildlife Trusts. She is also on the Management Committee for GM Freeze, and is passionate about how agroecological farming systems can support a fairer, healthier and more sustainable future.

**Lucy Beattie**  
Lucy is a sheep farmer who began teaching and researching in the

field of agricultural education. She has a practical background having managed an upland livestock farm in the North-West of Scotland for over 25 years. Her academic focus has looked at the connection between farmers and musicians as science communicators.

**Luke Daniels**  
Luke is a renowned folk musician born and raised in South Oxfordshire. His previous accolades include BBC Musician of the Year (BBC Radio 2 Young Tradition Award); PRS for Music Foundation (New Music Biennial Award) and the Palme d'Or Award for Music. He is working on new music to support Climate Communication practices in agriculture.

**Maddy Harland**  
Maddy is the co-founder of Permaculture Magazine and Permanent Publications, publishers of practical and leading edge solutions to global problems. She lives in a woodland that is a designated nature reserve with many rare species. She is the author of '*Fertile Edges - regenerating land, culture & hope and The Biotime Log*'.

**Mamerto Lagitan Tindongan**  
Mamerto is an eighth generation Mumbaki and native priest of the Baki spirituality who works in the Philippines to teach and guide students in the indigenous lifestyle and simple living of the Ifugao people, while working to regenerate abandoned rice fields using organic practices and documenting the traditional healing rituals of his region.

**Manchán Magan**  
Manchán writes occasionally for The Irish Times and presents the Almanac of Ireland podcast for Raidió Teilifís Éireann (RTÉ). He has made dozens of documentaries on issues of world culture for TG4, RTÉ, and Travel Channel. His best-selling books include '*Thirty-Two Words For Field*' and '*Listen to the Land Speak*'.

**Manda Scott**  
Manda, former vet and award-winning novelist, is best known for the Boudica: Dreaming series and the Accidental Gods podcast. A shamanic trainer and regenerative economics student, she co-created the Thrutopian Writing

Masterclass and explores future pathways in her new mytho-political thriller, '*Any Human Power*'.

**Margarita Barcena Lujambio**  
Margarita is a Mexican politologist focused on understanding food as a vector for liberation. As a bridge builder with program experience in grassroots and international organisations, she is part of 'A Growing Culture'- an organisation working towards a future of food sovereignty through storytelling and strategic communications.

**Margarita O. Zethelius**  
Margarita is an activist for life, seeking to bring together care for Mother Earth and human wellbeing. She is a biologist with an MSc in Conservation and Rural Development. She is founder of Falun Natural Reserve in the Andean region, the UBUNTU Center for Experimentation and Training in Regeneration in the Rosario Islands, and the organization Alianzas para la Abundancia, in Colombia. Currently, she is one of the representatives of CASA Latina in the Global Ecovillage Network GEN.

**Margherita Paola Poto**  
Margherita is a Research Professor and an ally of the Earth.

**Marianne Landzettel**  
Marianne is an agriculture journalist writing about food, farming and agricultural policies in the UK, the EU and the US. Until 2013 she worked for the BBC World Service. She is the author of '*Regenerative Agriculture: Farming with Benefits*', and has just published a book on sustainable meat production.

**Mark Borthwick**  
Mark is a researcher and storyteller who is particularly interested in creative methods for communicating policy narratives. Mark is an Open-Oxford-Cambridge Doctoral Fellow, UK Policy Manager at World Animal Protection focusing on a just transition for agriculturalists and animals, and is also performing TÁIN, the Irish Land Epic, with the Young Edinburgh Storytellers.

SPEAKER BIOS

**Mark Lea**  
Mark and Liz Lea's farm in Shropshire is now in its 25th year since organic conversion and follows a system inspired by the belief that sustainability requires diversity. The rotation is mixed with clover leys grazed by sheep, and cropping which includes milling oats, peas grown for Hodmedods and 20 different milling grains for direct sale to millers and bakers around the UK. Companion cropping, cover crops, agroforestry and a small on-farm stonemill all contribute to the resilience of the farm.

**Mark Measures**  
Mark is an organic specialist, providing advice in farm business, soil, crop and animal husbandry. He is a partner in a farm in Shropshire, the director of an education trust in Argentina, a Winston Churchill Fellow, and is studying soil management. He was formerly head of the Organic Advisory Service and the Institute of Organic Training and Advice.

**Mark Walton**  
Mark is the Director of Shared Assets, a community interest company that works with communities, landowners, researchers and activists to create a more just land system. He works to create a socially just future by supporting practical projects that build new relationships between people and the land.

**Marthe Kiley-Worthington**  
Marthe is a farmer who has developed 5 ecological farms (self-sustaining, diversified, high net yielding, and where the whole farm is also a nature reserve). She is also an ethologist and ecologist focused on animal welfare. Marthe has spent the last 20 years studying the epistemology of cattle, horses, elephants and rhinos. She has published 8 books and over 100 papers. She runs a small ecological farm on Exmoor, where anyone interested is welcome to visit.

**Martin Lines**  
Martin is a farmer and contractor in South Cambridgeshire, growing mainly arable crops on his family farm and rented land. He has a special interest

in farm conservation management, currently running a Sustainable Farming Incentive agreement and has Countryside Stewardship schemes on land he rents and manages.

**Martyn Bragg**  
Martyn runs Shillingford Organics, a 150-acre family farm near Exeter, certified organic since 1998. They produce vegetables, salads, herbs, fruits, and eggs, and practice agroforestry. With 10 full-time employees and a managerless system (critical to profitability and sustainability), they serve 700 customers weekly via veg boxes, farmers markets, and local retailers. 25 years of involvement in Countryside Stewardship schemes (and now SFI) financially support healthy biodiversity creation.

**Mary Dimambro**  
Mary has over 20 years of experience managing and successfully delivering scientific projects involving the evaluation, quality control and monitoring of organic materials (including digestates, composts, frass, and slurry) in horticulture and agriculture. Recent projects include peat-free growing media creation and digestate valorisation methods. Mary provides agri-environment and emission reduction support to farmers.

**Mathias Van Steenberghe**  
Mathias is one of the three founders of RICO lab, an organic and packaging-free neighbourhood store in Antwerp. The store plays an important role in the city when it comes to changing food systems. Before RICO lab, Mathias founded one of the nicest bars in town and he is an entrepreneur with his heart in the right place. So, two reasons to come to Antwerp soon!

**Matt Lobley**  
Matt is a Professor of Rural Resource Management and Director of the Centre for Rural Policy Research. He is a rural social scientist and has been conducting research for over 35 years focusing on agri-environmental management, agricultural change and restructuring, and family farm businesses, including succession, retirement and mental health.

**Matt Smee**  
Matt works for the Organic Research Centre, focusing his time on the Agricology website and sharing knowledge within the farming community about agroecological practices. Prior to his role at the ORC, Matt spent thirteen years building and running organic market gardens in the northwest of England.  
**Matt Swarbrick**  
An ecologist by background Matt is on a mission to prove that by working with nature you can produce good food, financial profit, soil, biodiversity, community and enjoy it all at the same time. Henbant is productive in many dimensions and runs leading training on Agriwilding, Holistic Decision Making and Agroecology.

**Matthew Adams**  
Matthew is a Deep Ecologist and co-founder of Growing Real Food for Nutrition (GRFFN) Community Interest Company (CIC), which is exploring how to grow, measure and promote the benefits of nutrient-rich food that creates ecosystem health. GRFFN conducts citizen science research and has collaborated on projects in India, the USA and across the UK.

**Matthew Kessler**  
Matthew has spent 15 years in and around food – from farms to kitchens, labs, and classrooms. As a coordinator at TABLE, he hosts the Feed podcast where he's interviewed over 100 experts, exploring what a 'good', just and resilient future for food and farming could look like.

**Matthieu de Cointet**  
Matthieu is a co-director at the Terre de Liens Foundation, where he manages farm acquisitions and agroecology programs. Previously with FNAB, the professional association for organic farmers, he is committed to promoting peasant and organic agriculture

**Mazarine Girardin**  
Following her work with NGOs to develop sustainable agriculture in the Paris Region, Mazarine is now engaged in a PhD with the City of Paris. Her research focuses on public farmland and public actions to mobilise it in alignment with food policy, as well as

# SPEAKER BIOS

to support new entrant farmers and facilitate land access.

**Megan Perry**  
Megan leads the Sustainable Food Trust's work on local meat supply chain infrastructure, coordinating the Abattoir Sector Group and sitting on Defra's Small Abattoir Working Group and the Task and Finish Group. She is also passionate about sustainable fibre, supporting work to bring value back into wool.

**Meshark Sikuku**  
Meshark from Nairobi is a Farm Systems and Sustainability Coordinator for the NGO Ripple Effect, working with smallholders in eastern Africa to develop sustainable agriculture. A whole-farm systems approach integrates traditional skills and innovative technologies with available resources. Ripple Effect is a leading regional advocate for agroecology and One Health.

**Mhairi Brown**  
Mhairi is a registered nutritionist and passionate about creating healthy food systems that support the health of people and the planet. She leads food and health work at the Food, Farming and Countryside Commission (FFCC). Prior to joining FFCC, she led policy and international workstreams at Consensus Action on Salt, Sugar and Health, and collaborated with stakeholders in Malaysia, Morocco, China and Peru to translate this work globally. Mhairi is also undertaking a PhD in food policy.

**Michel Pimbert**  
Michel is Emeritus Professor of Agroecology and Food Politics at Coventry University. His interests include agroecology and food sovereignty; political ecology; participatory action research; decolonizing knowledge; and deliberative democratic processes. Much of his writing focuses on transformations for the well-being of human and non-human nature.

**Mick McEvoy**  
Mick is an Irish native who lives, works, and studies in the community of Plum Village, France. Mick brings over twenty years of experience working

with people, plants, and mindfulness practice to his management of the Happy Farm and the rewilding project in Plum Village. The farm and rewilding lands welcome hundreds of retreatants annually and combine mindfulness-based approaches with seasonal organic food production and land stewardship rooted in sacred and deep ecology.

**Mike Mallett**  
Mike has been the manager of Maple Farm Kelsale, a 137-hectare mixed organic farm situated on the Suffolk Coast, for the past 12 years. Home to the Maple Farm Organic eggs, the arable cropping provides wheat for flour and feed, and pulses for the farms home produced soya free hen feed.

**Miranda Geelhoed**  
Miranda works for the Scottish Land Commission on land governance, including access to land for small-scale land ownership and use. This work looks at crofting as a model with significant potential for land reform. Miranda holds a PhD in law and has worked as a consultant on land, agriculture and food.

**Molly Biddell**  
Molly is Head of Natural Capital at Knepp Estate. She focuses on leveraging nature markets for Knepp, Weald to Waves and the River Adur Landscape Recovery project. She also works part-time at Hampton Estate, a family-run regenerative farming business, facilitates the Upper Adur Farming Cluster group and is a columnist for Farmers Weekly.

**Muna Dajani**  
Muna is an action researcher with a background in critical political ecology. Her work aims to understand environmental and water governance through decolonial and critical lenses. Her research focuses on examining community struggles for rights to water and land in settler colonial contexts in Palestine and the occupied Syrian Golan Heights, with special attention to farming practices, infrastructural politics and identity formation.

**Natacha Rossi**  
Natacha is a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Sussex, specialising in bee cognition. Her current work focuses on understanding how bees choose flowers during pollen foraging, contributing valuable insights into pollinator ecology. Her previous postdoc was in Prof. Lars Chittka's lab, known for his interest in insect consciousness.

**Natalie Lartey**  
Natalie is a change maker who provides learning and leadership to those in environmental and humanitarian spaces who want to generate knowledge and communicate from a racial justice perspective. Known for creating tools and bespoke programs of work, Natalie is a Research Masters candidate at Goldsmiths University, researching anti-racist and post-colonial development communications.

**Nessie Reid**  
Nessie is a curator, an artist and a farmer. She is Director of the Global Diversity Foundation with a focus on agroecology, food and health sovereignty and Spiritual Ecology. She is a Trustee at Cegin y Bobl (The People's Kitchen) and creator of the Patchwork of Belonging.

**Nic Renison**  
Nic farms near Penrith, Cumbria with her husband, Reno and two daughters. The financial squeezes of conventional hill farming pushed them towards a more 'regenerative' approach, starting off with the grazing, moving to a rotational system, learning how grass likes to grow, and realising that farming with nature rather than trying to dominate it is better for both their business, livestock and happiness. Along with Liz Genever, she runs Carbon Calling, a regenerative farming conference in Cumbria.

**Nicola Scott**  
Nicola Scott has years of community food growing and ecological urban farming experience in Manchester. She also managed the DEFRA-funded New Entrants Support Scheme Southeast for Shared Assets and currently leads on Stir to Action's work to increase

# SPEAKER BIOS

access to farmland security for racially minoritised groups.

**Nick Kary**  
Nick has been a furniture maker for the last 40 years in London, Devon and Mexico. For the last 20 years, he has also been teaching woodwork and helping diverse people reconnect to their hands. He has been an associate Lecturer at Plymouth University and the Schumacher College.

**Nick Mole**  
Nick joined Pesticide Action Network UK (PAN UK) in March 2007 as the UK and European Programme Coordinator. At university, Nick studied environmental science focussing on hydrology, water quality and environmental hazards. Prior to joining PAN UK, Nick spent six years working for the Environmental Investigation Agency as a campaigner, working on a diverse range of issues relating to investigating and exposing the illegal trade in endangered species.

**Nina Isabella Moeller**  
Nina is currently an Associate Professor at the University of Southern Denmark and works to enable an agroecological transformation of food systems. She has worked in Latin America and Europe- as a consultant to indigenous federations, NGOs and the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization.

**Oliver Chedgy**  
Oliver is a first-generation farmer who started off his own business using sheep and beef cattle to graze the uncropped land of the local arable farmers, eventually building up to 1200 acres of land. After this, he progressed into dairy farming and entered into a share farming agreement at Kingsclere estates. He now milks 450 organic cows once a day on a pasture-based system through a mobile milking parlour, one of only four in the whole of the United Kingdom.

**Olivia Oldham-Dorrington**  
Olivia is a PhD researcher at the University of Edinburgh, where her work focuses on the way we own and govern land influences the way we produce food. She has a particular focus on the role of private ownership,

and the possibilities of collective property relations.

**Olivia Wilson**  
Olivia is a flower grower and florist. She runs British Flower Studio Wetherly where she offers seasonal floristry services and sustainability consultancy as well as being co-founder of SSAW Collective, which advocates for progressive ecological change in our food, floral and farming systems. She is on the board of Flowers from the Farm and a member of The Sustainable Cut Flowers Project's working group.

**Ollie Douglas**  
Farmer's son Ollie is Curator of The Museum of English Rural Life (The MERL) at the University of Reading, where he works to connect communities, researchers, and audiences with collections linked to farming and the countryside. Through partnerships and projects, he aims to use these materials to explore, elucidate, and address shared global challenges connected to food, land, and heritage.

**Out on The Land (OOTL)**  
OOTL is where LGBTQIA+ folx come together to build solidarity, network and connect, and raise the voices of queer and trans landworkers. We are the LGBTQIA+ member organising group within the Landworkers Alliance. We aim to reduce isolation, challenge cis-het-normativity and to create spaces for queer and trans joy!

**Paola Laini**  
Paola is a young farm worker based in Northern Italy who has recently concluded her formation in organic farming. In the past, she has been part of collective farming projects in the UK, Austria and Italy and she is particularly interested in the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model. She is an active member of Associazione Rurale Italiana (ARI), member of the European Coordination Via Campesina (ECVC) in Italy, as well as of the Youth Articulation of ECVC.

**Pat Thomas**  
Pat is the director of A Bigger Conversation and Beyond GM in the UK. She is a former editor of the Ecologist

magazine and has run award-winning campaigns for Compassion in World Farming and Paul McCartney's Meat Free Monday. She is a former trustee of both the Soil Association and the Organic Research Centre.

**Patrick Barker**  
Patrick is a farmer and conservationist from Westhorpe in Mid-Suffolk. His 533-hectare family farm is a LEAF Demonstration Farm and an Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Strategic Farm. They are winners of both the Farmers Weekly Countryside Farmer of the Year and FWAG's Silver Lapwing award. Conservation is integral to the farm, where they have a Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier scheme and Patrick's ethos is to farm in modern, productive ways while having a farm full of wildlife.

**Patrick Holden**  
Patrick is the Founder and CEO of the Sustainable Food Trust. He trained in Biodynamic farming and has farmed for over 50 years on a 300-acre mixed organic dairy holding, now the longest established organic dairy farm in Wales. He currently leads a task force on measuring land use sustainability for the Sustainable Markets Initiative.

**Patrick MacManaway**  
Patrick is a third-generation practitioner of psychic and healing arts. He was previously president of the British Society of Dowsters, holds a degree in Medicine, and has clients in the US, UK and Australia. He has been working as a land whisperer since 1994, with domestic, commercial and agricultural clients.

**Paul R. Price**  
Paul is a climate change science and policy researcher, particularly looking at agri-food and land use system transition within climate-impacted futures. He is an adjunct professor at Dublin City University and a volunteer contributor for environmental NGOs, with an honours degree in geology and a masters in sustainable development.

**Pauline Shakespeare**  
Pauline was responsible for Rootz into Food Growing, developed to challenge inequalities and narratives within



SPEAKER BIOS

food growing. Her work has been used in projects funded by organisations including DEFRA and The Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Pauline is actively involved in encouraging knowledge exchange and network building between BPOC growers in the UK and internationally.

Perrine Bulgheroni

Perrine is the co-founder of the Bec Hellouin farm in France. She is the author of ‘Miraculous Abundance’ and ‘Living with the Earth’. She now helps young farmers to set up their own farms and believes in cooperative systems for a regenerative and vibrant form of agriculture.

Pete Ritchie

Pete is the Director of Nourish Scotland. He is also a retired organic farmer and now cultivates his garden.

Peter Samsom

Peter works for the Landworkers Alliance on Resilient Local Food Systems and has been working with partners from Pasture for Life, The Food, Farming and Countryside Commission, The Sustainable Food Trust and Sustain on a Local Food Growth Plan. Peter has worked around food and farming for 40 years as a cheesemaker, smallholder, farmers market manager and with Food Durham.

Phil Houghton

Phil founded the award-winning Better Food Company in 1992 and has been living organic since the age of 14. In 1974 he was farming organically in a community in Scotland. He then began working at Windmill Hill City Farm in 198 and founded The Community Farm in 2010. He has over 45 years of experience in farming, growing, retailing, and wholesaling. Phil has recently moved back to being Managing Director of Better Food to help tackle the economic decline in the organic market.

Phil Swire

Phil is an organic farmer in North East Scotland at Balmakewan Farm. They farm red deer, easycare sheep and grow gluten-free oats for milling and combinable peas. Phil’s organic green split peas are supplying Aberdeen

City’s schools as part of the Give Peas a Chance pilot project with Bridging the Gap. He is hugely focused on natural farming, working with nature to build fertility, soil heath, and ultimately grow healthy, nutrient-dense food.

Phyllida Warmington

Phyllida is a third generation farmer on the Quantock hills in Somerset. In 2022 she set up Cothelstone micro-dairy as part of the wider family farm, a small 100% pasture fed dairy selling raw milk and beef directly from the farm. Their dual purpose cows are milked just once a day and paddock grazed across permanent pasture.

Polly Meyrick

Polly is an artist, musician and farm worker. Her work focuses on the human stories behind the climate and biodiversity emergency and food and land justice. She uses portraiture to celebrate the people behind movements and makes her own art mediums from foraged materials.

Rachael Durrant

Rachael is a Leverhulme Fellow based at the University of Sussex, where she is currently researching women’s journeys into and through farming in contemporary Britain. She is also an artist, mother of three, avid backyard grower, and supporter member of the Landworkers Alliance. Over the years, Rachael has used graphic journaling as a way of processing and integrating these varied experiences and is keen to share the approach with others.

Rachael Forster

Rachael supports a number of projects at Tamar Grow Local CIC including Tamar Valley Food Hubs, The Good Food Loop and Mill Lane Acres FarmStart. Rachael is also co-ordinating a south-west land matching pilot project as part of a wider working group developing a land matching service for England.

Rachel Fleming

Rachel is a founder of Animate Earth Collective, providing education and events that remember and restore our intimate relationship with the land. Originally an ecologist and government advisor, she has been curating and directing in this area for the last 12 years.

Rachel Mulrenan

Rachel is Scotland Director at WildFish, focusing on the farmed salmon campaign (including Off the table) and the organisation’s wider work across Scotland. A trained journalist, Rachel has spent the past seven years campaigning for greater sustainability across a number of industries, from fashion to food. Prior to joining WildFish, she worked at the Changing Markets Foundation, and led a campaign highlighting the unsustainable use of wild fish as feed in global aquaculture.

Rachel Phillips

Rachel is a Director of the Apricot Centre, located at Huxhams Cross Farm. She co-developed and teaches groundbreaking accredited courses aimed at training new farmers in regenerative agriculture, as well as those looking to transition to agroecological farming practices. Additionally, Rachel is an agroecological design consultant, focusing on educational systems within farming environments. Huxhams Cross Farm is a Regenerative Biodynamic Farm in South Devon.

Rae Hippolyte

Rae is an Outdoor Educator, Grower, and one of the founding members of folx farm, a farm run by women and non-binary people in East Sussex. Alongside working the land, Rae is currently coordinating a food project exploring how to make access to good food more equitable.

Rafael Pflücker

Rafael is an agronomist with an MBA and a diploma in Biodynamics. His career has combined practical fieldwork with academia, including managing a biodynamic farm and directing The Nature Conservancy’s strategy for scaling sustainable agricultural practices in Latin America. He’s currently a professor of ecological agriculture at the Universidad Científica del Sur.

Randa Toko

Randa is a land-worker, an artist, and is the Southern coordinator of The Seed Sovereignty Programme.

SPEAKER BIOS

Rebecca Bragg

Rebecca became passionate about sustainable food production whilst working on an organic farm. She recently completed a PhD with Warwick Crop Centre at the University of Warwick where she researched the integrated pest management of the bean seed fly. She is currently working as a sustainability researcher for Riverford Organic Farmers.

Rebecca Laughton

Rebecca has been combining practical work as an organic grower and farmer, with research and campaigning for over twenty years. She is the Horticulture Campaigns Co-ordinator at Landworkers’ Alliance and facilitated the Defra Horticulture ELMS Test and Trial, ‘Growing the Goods’. She is the author of ‘Surviving and Thriving on the Land’ (Green Books 2008).

Rebecca Wells

Rebecca is a Senior Lecturer in Food Policy at City St George’s, University of London and the Programme Director for the MSc in Food Policy. Her research focuses on food policy and the media, food systems pedagogy, and developing food policy for a healthier, more sustainable and equitable food system.

Rémi Cluset

Rémi is Agroecology Advisor in the FAO’s Plant Production and Protection Division. He organised the FAO’s global and regional seminars on agroecology from 2015 to 2018. He has worked with farmer organisations and with the government of France in various positions at local, national and international levels.

Rhodri Lloyd-Williams

Rhodri farms at Moelgolomen in the heart of the Cambrian mountains with his parents, wife and three children. They farm hardy Welsh mountain sheep and Welsh black cattle. Moelgolomen has been organic since 1999 and has always been involved in agri-environmental schemes. Over recent times Rhodri and family have planted upwards of 80 thousand trees throughout the farm whilst also allowing existing hedges to grow tall and bushy to provide shelter for nature and stock alike.

Ria Burns

Ria designs and makes local wool knitwear, grows and works with natural dye plants, and provides education in natural dyes and British wool via workshops, books and research projects. She makes small-batch clothing and accessories from local, traceable wool. She hand dyes her garments with homegrown and foraged plants, handmaking each piece to create a locally made, long-lasting, and unique product that works with, not against, the environment.

Richard Fortey

Richard was a research scientist at the Natural History Museum for many years, and is a Fellow of the Royal Society. He has published ten science books for the general reader, several of which have won literary prizes. His contribution to public engagement with science was recognised by the award of the Faraday Medal and the Lewis Thomas Medal of Rockefeller University.

Richard Gantlett

Richard runs a Biodynamic family farm at Yatesbury in Wiltshire where they grow diverse leys, cereal crops, and have a suckler herd of beef cattle. The farm includes agroforestry within one whole farm community welcoming nature. He is also a visiting lecturer in Integrated Weed Management at the University of Reading.

Richard Lewis

Richard runs ‘The Mother Tree’, a fruit tree nursery in South Devon, and is a director of Bidwell & Dart: Growing Ecological Roots (B&DGER) CIC, a land-based collaborative project founded in 2024. Their training includes plant taxonomy (MSc) and ecology (BSc). They previously worked in biodiversity conservation.

Rita Oldenbourg

Rita runs Pitney Farm Market Garden with her partner Adam Beer. They won Young Organic Grower of the Year award 2024. Rita is a new entrant farmer in her fifth year running a 4.5 acre mechanised market garden, wholesaling year-round to an onsite farm shop and other local outlets.

Rob Percival

Rob is a writer, campaigner and food policy expert. His commentary on

food and farming has been featured in the national press and on prime-time television, and his writing has been shortlisted for the Guardian’s International Development Journalism Prize and the Thomson Reuters Foundation’s Food Sustainability Media Award.

Robbie Blake

Robbie is an environmentalist and communications specialist, and Communications Manager for the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES-Food). Previously at Friends of the Earth Europe, his work contributed to safeguarding EU biodiversity laws, securing regulations on biofuels, and establishing the Fossil Free Politics campaign. Robbie holds degrees from the Universities of East Anglia and St Andrews.

Robert Barbour

Robert works as a senior researcher in the Sustainable Food Trust research team, producing reports and briefing papers on issues including the hidden cost of UK food, the role of grazing livestock in sustainable food systems, and the impacts of a nationwide transition to regenerative, agroecological farming. Robert comes from a hill farming family in Highland Perthshire.

Robert Caudwell

Robert is a farmer from South Lincolnshire farming land adjacent to the Wash and has been involved with flood defence all his career. He is a Council Member of the National Trust. He was Chair of the Lowland Agricultural Peat Task Force. He was also chair of the Association of Drainage Authorities and President of the European Union of Water Management Associations.

Roisin Taylor

Roisin is a nature-friendly flower farmer and florist running Verde Flower Co in Newcastle Upon Tyne, as well as the co-director for UK Youth for Nature - the UK’s leading youth network calling for the government to take action for nature. She is also a Nuffield farming scholar researching climate change adaptation for the British cut flower industry, in addition to being a Green

SPEAKER BIOS

Jobs For Nature ambassador working to get young people into agriculture and horticulture.

**Romilly Swann**  
Romilly is a shepherdess and natural dyer with a background in botany and archaeology, She currently combines her farming with roles in illustration, education and writing to question and explore human relationships with land and nature in a swiftly evolving countryside.

**Rosa Farber**  
Rosa is an artist, performer, and organic grower, who has recently returned from Glasgow to work on her family's biodynamic farm in West Sussex. Rosa's work is in a process of transition, trying to work through how farming can function as an art practice, and vice versa.

**Rose Davis**  
Rose is a marketing strategist who helps sustainably-led organisations connect authentically with their audiences. She's dedicated to supporting small businesses in crafting strategic, manageable marketing plans that build loyal customer bases—no big budgets or extensive teams required.

**Rosemary Champion**  
Rosemary has been a Scottish smallholder since 2000, breeding Shetland cattle and Ryeland sheep amongst other things. She was integral to the establishment of the Scottish Smallholder Festival and owns the website 'The Accidental Smallholder'. In recent years, she has become more involved in politics and Scottish land reform.

**Rosemary Collier**  
Rosemary is interested in food production and the natural environment. Much of her research is focused on the management of pest insects in horticultural crops using approaches that minimise the impact on other species. This may be through biological or physical approaches, or through host plant resistance.

**Roshni Shah**  
Roshni is the Diversity Outreach Coordinator at Sustain, leading a programme to increase ethnic

diversity and centre racial justice in the sustainable food and farming sector. She has 10 years of experience working and volunteering in sustainable food and community settings.

**Rosie Baldwin**  
Rosie spearheads the marketing, publicity and events programme for Chelsea Green Publishing UK, a leading publisher in sustainable and regenerative living. She enjoys collaborating with a variety of organisations to introduce Chelsea Green authors to new audiences around the world. She has an MSc in Environment, Science and Society from University College London.

**Rosie Bristow**  
Rosie, founder of Fantasy Fibre Mill, is revolutionising the fibre supply chain with a focus on environmental and community well-being. She champions regenerative agriculture, cultivating flax and developing processing machines for UK-grown natural fibre yarn. Rosie pioneers open-source methods, fostering transparency and inclusivity in the textile industry.

**Roz Corbett**  
Roz is a grower, researcher and organiser based in mid-wales. She has carried out research on the community right to buy in Scotland and how this relates to agricultural transitions. She is a grower at Gladfy Farm growers in Wales and has been a member of the Landworkers' Alliance coordinating group for 6 years.

**Rufus Pawsey**  
Rufus returned to Shimpling Park Farms after studying at Newcastle University and has thrown himself into their trials with gusto, undertaking both wheat and oat trials. As a former choral scholar, Rufus will soon have the organic system at Shimpling humming.

**Rupert Sheldrake**  
Rupert, PhD, is a biologist and author best known for his hypothesis of morphic resonance. At Cambridge University he worked in developmental biology as a Fellow of Clare College. He was Principal Plant Physiologist at the International Crops Research Institute

for the Semi-Arid Tropics in Hyderabad, India. From 2005 to 2010 he was Director of the Perrott-Warrick project for research on unexplained human and animal abilities, funded by Trinity College, Cambridge.

**Russ Carrington**  
Russ is a coach, mentor and facilitator, working with farmers, families, agricultural organisations and landscape scale initiatives, helping them through periods of transition towards regenerative practice. He has worked across the UK, Ireland and Europe. He previously managed Pasture for Life and established the regenerative farm on the Knepp Estate.

**Ruth Hancock**  
Ruth is an Agroecological Farmer from East Devon, UK, and a Coordinating Group member of The Landworkers Alliance. Since 2017 she has hosted five Farm Hacks for Women and non Binary Landworkers, at her farm, where she also runs seasonal traineeships and short courses.

**Ruth Westcott**  
Ruth campaigns for good food to be included in local and national policy and action on climate change, including for public sector food that reflects a planetary health diet. Ruth created Planning for the Planet, a campaign to halt pollution from factory farms through planning.

**Sabrina Espeleta**  
Sabrina is Senior Programmes Officer at War on Want, partnering with peasant movements and civil society organisations from the Global South in the struggle for food sovereignty. Previously, she coordinated agroecology and family farming projects in Argentina, Brazil and Sri Lanka, collaborating with local and national organisations advocating for smallholders' rights.

**Sagari R Ramdas**  
Sagari is a veterinary scientist, a member of the Food Sovereignty Alliance in India, and is learning to be an agro-ecological food-farmer. She is a Popular Educator at the Kudali Learning Centre in Telangana, India where she designs and facilitates transformative popular education processes on Social

SPEAKER BIOS

justice, Food Sovereignty and Buen Vivir. She writes on her interests concerning social justice, food sovereignty, livestock and ecological governance.

**Sam Packer**  
Sam is a Standards Innovation Manager at Soil Association where he leads projects on horticulture and poultry development. He has a background as a grower and has experience in farming, nature policy development, and organising campaigns.

**Samson Hart**  
Samson is a food grower, land-tender, writer and earth-based facilitator/educator, currently living and tending land in South Devon. He is a creative associate at gentle/radical, and co-founder of Miknaf Ha'aretz, a CIC/collective building earth-based, radical, diasporist jewish community in the UK.

**Samwel Nangiria Taresero**  
Samwel is an award-winning human rights defender from the Maasai nation in Tanzania/Kenya. He is trained in natural resources management and is a distinguished knowledge-holder in traditional land management and governance. He has been leading a holistic reconciliation and healing journey within the Maasai nation, addressing intergenerational colonial trauma.

**Sandra Salazar**  
Sandra is a horticulturist and farmer and founder of GoGrowWithLove C.I.C, an indigenous melanin rich women-led organisation. Sandra teaches food growing and land/food sovereignty to children and families in nurseries, schools, and community projects and is the facilitator of a project called Women Leading With The Land, which focuses on empowering Women of African and Caribbean heritage to become SOILSISTARS and develop skills in land cultivation, food production and enterprise.

**Sara Daniels**  
Sara is an Oxfordshire singer-songwriter. Her performances have taken centre stage at festivals and clubs up and down the UK and Ireland. Her songwriting embraces the majestic

Ridgeway hills and downs, ideas with women at heart and social comment. Her CD 'Lightly on My Heart', prompting a 5-star review from RR2 magazine, combines her own songs with some well-known folk standards.

**Sara Grady**  
Sara, co-founder of British Pasture Leather, pioneers sustainable leather production in the UK. Partnering with Pasture For Life certified farms, she ensures traceability to regenerative sources. Sara oversees traditional tanning methods and natural finishing, delivering leather products that promote environmental stewardship and animal welfare.

**Sara Hall**  
Sara works for Pasture for Life within their research team and as a PhD researcher at Bristol Veterinary School where she is looking at environmental and animal welfare impacts in different dairy production systems. Sara is also a livestock farmer, based in North Yorkshire with her family.

**Sara Moon**  
Sara is a nature-connection and rites of passage facilitator, food-grower, community organiser and Hebrew Priestess. She is co-founder of Miknaf Ha'aretz, a collective dedicated to building earth-based, radical diasporist Jewish community in the UK and its youth-wing, Camp Beenu. Sara lives in South Devon and dreams of building a radical land project of rich diasporic spirituality, solidarity and Land-tending.

**Sarah Langford**  
Sarah is a criminal barrister turned Sunday Times bestselling author of two books. Her second book, 'Rooted: How Regenerative Farming Can Change The World', describes her journey of taking on an organic arable and pasture farm in Suffolk and the stories of those who taught her what it means to be a farmer. She writes for a range of publications and appears regularly at events and panels as both speaker and chair.

**Sarah Queblatin**  
Sarah is a regenerative design specialist and facilitator weaving collective experiences in peace

building, cultural heritage, environmental education, and humanitarian assistance. Her life-long practice is in restoring and re-storying narratives of place and belonging through ecosystem restoration and leadership. She founded Living Story Landscapes and Green Releaf Initiative. She serves as inner council member for UNDP's Conscious Food Systems Alliance, wisdom council for Global Ecovillage Network Oceania and Asia, founding member for Permaculture for Refugees, among other regenerative networks and movements.

**Sarah Wakefield**  
Sarah is the Executive Director of Eating Better, a coalition of nearly 70 NGOs working on sustainable food systems in the UK, focused on less and better meat. She led WWF's work on the Retailers' Commitment to Nature following a decade in retail at the Co-op.

**Sarah Williams**  
Sarah is Programmes Director for Sustain after joining in 2009 to run the urban growing campaign, Capital Growth, which supported 2,012 new community food growing gardens in London. She has developed programmes including Growing Health, Bridging the Gap and the Local Food Plan. She also oversees Sustain's Local Action theme which includes Sustainable Food Places, is a director of Better Food Traders, and represents Sustain on the London Food Board.

**Sarah Woolley**  
Sarah is the General Secretary of the The Bakers, Food and Allied Workers' Union (BFAWU), one of the oldest trade unions in the UK, representing workers throughout the food industry and allied trades.

**Saskia Colombant**  
Saskia is a Research and Project Officer at The International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES-Food). She is a specialist in food systems with a particular interest in food governance and political pluralism. She holds an MSc in Resilient Farming and Food Systems from Wageningen University & Research, and a BSc in Bioscience Engineering from the University of Louvain.

SPEAKER BIOS

**Saurabh Arora**  
Saurabh works on questions of decolonisation and sustainability. He is based at the University of Sussex.

**Sean Ruffell**  
Sean is the Managing Director of Organic North Wholesalers, one of the few large-scale wholesalers of exclusively certified organic fresh produce in the UK. Aside from lumping veg about, managing some of the day-to-day operations and our 20-strong warehouse and office staff, Sean’s current responsibilities include sales, both establishing new and maintaining existing relationships with our ever-expanding number of growers and suppliers, as well as developing and implementing new systems and software.

**Seb Mayfield**  
Seb is head of growth at Ooooby and has spent the best part of 20 years working on increasing access to good food. He co-owns a local veg box scheme in Hampshire and is co-founder and director of Hampshire Market Garden.

**Sebastian Kipp**  
Sebastian’s background is in agriculture with a strong focus on plant science. After various research periods in Aleppo/Syria for the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and University of Adelaide, Sebastian joined Klasmann-Deilmann. As Director of Product Development and Innovation, Sebastian is responsible for the execution of their peat reduction strategy across all horticultural segments.

**Seiel Sun**  
Seiel is a shamanic practitioner, medium, environmentalist and mixed media interdisciplinarity artist, exploring the intangible and the collective unconscious.

**Shama Khanna**  
Shama is a London artist and curator who grows. They are researching towards a PhD in liberatory gardening with Kingston University in collaboration with Barking and Dagenham Council. They have curated

the online platform (flatness.eu) for over 10 years, a collective journey celebrated in the book ‘*Queer Diasporic Futurity*’.

**Shane Holland**  
Shane (he/him) is a campaigner on food, farming, and social justice issues. He is Chairman of Slow Food in the UK, sits on the global Slow Food Council, and is a founding member of Slow Food LGBTQ2S+. His other roles include Chairman of Borough Market and Ambassador for Venner.

**Shinya Imahashi**  
Shinya is a Natural Agriculture farmer and advocate. He was previously the long-term farm manager for the Shumei Yatesbury farm in the UK. Shinya offers educational courses to gardeners and farmers wishing to learn more about seed-saving and cultivating crops and healthy soil without the use of any additives.

**Silas Hedley-Lawrence**  
Silas is an agroecological farmer, coach and consultant with a decade of experience in regenerative agriculture. Formerly a farm manager at FAI Farms and English Farm, Silas focuses on lean, profitable farming systems that deliver biodiversity and soil health. He’s a participant in the R AAP, R2R and CREATE accelerator programmes.

**Siwan Clark**  
Siwan Clark is a Welsh singer and harpist. Her performances use storytelling, folk music, and original compositions to create a space of community, solidarity, and care. With Alex Heffron, she co-authored the essay ‘*For Land or Money: Care and the Welsh Farm*’ for the collection ‘*The Welsh Way*’ (Parthian, 2021).  
**Sofie Elise Quist**  
Sofie is a PhD candidate at the Arctic University of Norway where her research follows coastal communities and small-scale fishers’ struggles for rights and access to the sea and competing narratives about sustainable food in ocean governance. During the short arctic summer, she grows vegetables at Holt eco park, Tromsø.

**Sofie Keller**  
Sofie is a Bristol-based artist exploring wool and pastoralist knowledge for ecological restoration. Currently studying an MA in Regenerative Design at Central Saint Martins, Sofie practises Dogma knitting, a technique of knitting directly from raw wool, celebrating the slowness and the value of handcraft.

**Sonia Lee**  
Sonia has worked with farmers across horticulture and grazing industries for more than 20 years and has grown vegetables using mulch-based techniques for around 25, including operating a small-scale no-till market garden. Having grown up on a farm, Sonia’s balanced approach encompasses thorough academic research alongside practical, farmer-orientated, commercial reality.

**Sonita Mbah**  
Sonita is a Communications Coordinator at The Pocket Project and holds a Masters in World Heritage Studies. She is a passionate food grower, Permaculture designer and facilitator. For over 10 years, she was the Administrator of Better World Cameroon and co-initiator of Bafut Ecovillage, an off-grid learning center North West of Cameroon. As Executive Secretary of the Global Ecovillage Network Africa, she brings regenerative community and social enterprise development to several African communities.

**Sophia Doyle**  
Sophia (she/her) is a researcher currently based in Berlin. Her work combines her background in Postcolonial Studies, practical agricultural training and activist experiences to build internationalist solidarities across movements for food and land justice. She is currently working on a PhD researching the relationship between industrial agriculture, colonialism and imperialism.

**Sophie Kirk**  
Sophie works as a Senior Commercial Manager at Soil Association Certification supporting the development of organic farming, agri-

SPEAKER BIOS

food sectors and supply chains. With an MSc in Food Security & Sustainable Agriculture from the University of Exeter, previous experience includes leading sustainable food strategies for local Government and public health and supporting the development of short supply chains.

**Sparrow Middleton**  
Sparrow specialises in organic field crops, market gardening and tunnel production. Prior to working at Tolhurst Organic, Sparrow worked at Growing with Grace organic market garden. He is a member of the Vegan Organic Network and a co-founder of The Organic Growers Gathering. Sparrow’s passions include music, woodwork and welding.

**Steph Ackrill**  
Steph, along with her husband Fred, have taken over their family farm in the Cotswolds. At the conference, they will discuss the successes and challenges faced during the succession process. The farm runs a herd of Pasture-for-life, Organic Herefords, known as ‘Cotswold Beef’, alongside multiple farm diversification enterprises.

**Steph Robinson**  
Steph is co-founder of criw compostio, a non-profit community composting project based in Machynllet, mid-Wales dealing in local waste (food waste in particular). She’s also a facilitator, teacher, and organiser. She built and lives in the world’s first miscanthus straw-bale house (with 2 compost toilets), and has worked in Human Resources teams for the last 25 years, the last 15 of which in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. She now specialises in employee network development and inclusive leadership training.

**Stephanie Motzek**  
Stephanie works in ethics and compliance at Suma. Transparency, fairness and equality are central to her role. Whilst relatively new to the cooperative movement, Stephanie sees the value and potential for coops to contribute to the transformation required for a healthier and more egalitarian food system.

**Stephanie Williamson**  
Stephanie is an ecologist and biologist, a Scientists for XR member, and recently retired as Staff Scientist at Pesticide Action Network UK (PAN UK) after more than two decades working on pesticide alternatives and sustainable agriculture all over the world. At PAN UK her work included identification and promotion of ecologically informed alternatives to hazardous pesticides, pesticide policy assessment, and advising food and fibre companies and standards on reducing pesticide use and risks.

**Steve Morris**  
A qualified secondary and Additional Learning Needs teacher, an engineer and a mountain leader, Steve is working for Social Farms & Gardens organising events as part of the Bwyd Sir Gar Food partnership and running the Carmarthenshire Machinery Ring. He runs a One Planet Development in Llandeilo which is currently in the construction phase.

**Steven Jacobs**  
Steven is a business development manager for UK’s largest certifier of organic land, Organic Farmers & Growers. He is also involved in the Organic Growers Alliance, European Organic Comms Hub, GM Freeze, Shropshire Good Food Partnership, Wales Real Food and Farming Conference, Welsh Organic Forum, and the UK Grain Lab.

**Steven McAllister**  
Steven is an Agri Supply Chain Coordinator for White’s Oats in Tandragee. He supports the local supply chain and organic growers in Great Britain to deliver the best quality oats. White’s Oats are committed to their organic oat supply with Organic Arable and have invested in organic oat trials over recent years. Alongside visiting farms, Steven provides invaluable information on oat milling performance.

**Steven Sidhu**  
Steve is CEO and co-founder of Growing Good Technology, a software platform built for running a veg box scheme. Growing Good is on a mission to put great tech in the hands of local growers and retailers to make our local food system really work.

**Tamara Schiopu**  
Tamara specialises in food marketing and holds a Biology degree from the State University of Moldova and a Master’s degree in Business Administration MBA from the University of California. Her recent activities involve organic and artisan food legislation and Organic Group Certification. Tamara is co-founder of Tolhurst Organic Partnership CIC.

**Tammy Smalley**  
Tammy is Head of Conservation at the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. She has lived and worked around the world, but has now come home to her roots for her final push to recover nature and help adapt to and tackle the drivers of climate change. Tammy is working with the farming sector, water level management bodies, water companies and more to secure sustainable food production and well-managed water resources that benefit peatland restoration as well as people and wildlife for generations to come.

**Tamsin Blaxter**  
Tamsin is a researcher at TABLE, where she explores evidence, assumptions and values around food systems futures. She has worked on the history and science of protein nutrition, and on how power, nature, and our relationships with non-human animals shape food systems debates.

**Tara Wight**  
Tara is an activist and researcher working on agroecological transitions and land justice in a Scottish context. She holds a PhD in agricultural science and currently works as the campaigns coordinator for the Landworkers’ Alliance in Scotland. Her work focuses on improving equity in the farming system, supporting diverse new entrants to the land-work sector, and campaigning for the redistribution of land to the people who live and work on it.

**Tasha Elena Stevens-Vallecillo**  
Tasha is a BIPOC mushroom and medicine grower with Mayan heritage stemming back to Nicaragua. Her training was acquired through her heritage and community living off-grid

SPEAKER BIOS

in the UK, where the land’s whispers gave rise to her intuitive approach to farming and tending. As founder of Land, Food and Medicine, her focus now lies in growing medicinal foods on a medium scale. She has an outdoor log mushroom farm, cultivating native strains using ancient methods and growing medicinal agroforestry crops.

**Tatiana Garavito**  
Tatiana is an organiser and facilitator working on issues at the intersection of migration, race, and climate justice. With extensive experience in social justice leadership and liberation processes, she also co-leads care and repair efforts at Tipping Point UK.

**Teleri Fielden**  
Teleri is a first-generation tenant farmer, farming in Nantmor, Gwynedd (Eryri/Snowdonia) with her husband Ned and son Ianto Glyn. Teleri also works for the Farmers’ Union of Wales Policy team and leads on Climate Change, Biodiversity, Forestry and Red Meat as well as general Future Agricultural Policy scheme design. **The Hot Poets (Dizraeli, Testament, Abby Oliveira, and Liv Torc)**  
Hot Poets is the UK’s leading climate science and literature project, working nationally and internationally to support a faster green transition through world class creative intervention. Hot Poets Dizraeli, Testament, Abby Oliveira and Liv Torc are all world-renowned Artists. Their Hot Poets poems have been experienced over 5 million times.

**Tim Barnes**  
Tim has been involved in farming all his working life. He was a hill shepherd and Crofter in Argyll for 35 years before moving to Galloway four years ago with his family. Having come across regenerative grazing and the science behind it in 2019 (which “just made sense” to him), he now farms 120 acres at Trostrie using Adaptive Multi-Paddock (AMP) grazing with a flock of South Country Cheviots to develop soil function and fertility.

**Tim Downes**  
Tim has been a Shropshire organic dairy and beef farmer for 25 years, milking 300 cows, spring calve selling to Organic Herd (OMSCO), and beef

to Waitrose. He is a Nuffield scholar, a RABDF Vice chairman, and he sits on a dairy round table group feeding into DEFRA. He also has 9 years of experience on the Organic Herd board, he sits on the Dairy Science Forum and DairyUK, and he enjoys river rowing.

**Tim Field**  
Tim facilitates the North East Cotswold Farmer Cluster, practices deer management, and has experience in the food supply chain. Among a number of projects undertaken with the farmer cluster this year are a grouped England Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO) tree planting application with Network Rail, the Evenlode Landscape Recovery, a deer drone survey and venison supply chain analysis, and local abattoir and meat supply chain feasibility study.

**Tim Lang**  
Tim is Professor Emeritus of Food Policy at City St George’s, University of London. After hill farming in Lancashire in the 1970s, he worked on food policy across health, environment, politics and culture. Since writing *Feeding Britain* (Pelican 2021), he’s focussed on the state of civil food resilience.

**Tom Gregory**  
Tom is an organic dairy farmer, producing milk for Arla. He and his wife, Sophie, share farm on the Devon-Dorset border. They run 360 mainly Irish Friesian cows across 900 acres. Their business focuses on turning grass to milk in a socially and environmentally sustainable way. They are passionate about the potential of soil.

**Tom Johnstone**  
Tom comes from a background in outdoor adventure education. He spent 15 years working across the UK and Europe leading folks young and old on responsible outdoor adventures and learning about the landscapes, the environment and personal development. He recently launched we are Nature Based CIC to help drive the delivery of Natural Flood Management and further the conversation around Rights of Nature in Wales and brings a proactive ‘can do’ approach to tackling the Nature Emergency.

**Tom Lancaster**  
Tom is Head of Land, Food and Farming at the Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit (ECIU). Tom joined the ECIU in March 2023, moving from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) where he was head of farming and land management policy. His background is in agriculture and land use policy, having coordinated much of the environment sector’s policy development and advocacy around post-Brexit farm payment reforms in England.

**Tom Pearson**  
Tom is a farmer and medical doctor, striving to build resilience in all aspects of the farm, from healthy soils to healthy communities. His recent Nuffield farming scholarship explores the role of agriculture and food systems as an opportunity to improve health, including through local food supply and education.

**Tom Pope**  
Tom is a Reader at Harper Adams University where he teaches entomology and integrated pest management (IPM). His research focuses on developing IPM tools in arable as well as horticultural crops. His recent work addresses the need to develop approaches to determine whether integrated approaches are working additively or synergistically.

**Tom Wakeford**  
Tom works with Seeding Reparations, whose aim is to transform food and farming systems in ways that support wider efforts to repair the harms inflicted by European colonialism as we work towards an alternative world to racial capitalism. He is also a participatory researcher, writer and occasional performer.

**Tristram Stuart**  
Tristram is the founder of Toast Ale, a beer launched in the UK in 2016 that is made using fresh, surplus bread. He is an international award-winning author, speaker, campaigner and expert on the environmental and social impacts of food. The environmental campaigning organisation he founded, Feedback, has spread its work into dozens of countries worldwide to change society’s attitude towards wasting food.

SPEAKER BIOS

**Ulrich Schmutz**  
Ulrich is a professor at Coventry University in England, United Kingdom. He is a co-founder of the university’s research centres on agroecology (CAFS, CAWR) based at Ryton Organic Gardens, a 10 ha certified organic horticultural farm, which Coventry University bought in 2019. Ulrich is an agricultural and horticultural scientist and economist and has 35 years experience in organic horticulture, food and farming research.

**Umulkhayr Mohamed**  
Umulkhayr (he/she/they) is a Welsh Somali artist and community organiser who was drawn to land justice as a place where they felt able to join the practising of a spirituality rooted in animism and ancestral honouring, grounded in inter-species liberation. He’s a member of Teasel Coop, a Cardiff UK queer land justice collective.

**Valeria Ragni**  
Valeria is the Centre Manager at the Worker Support Centre and has over ten years’ of experience in establishing, developing and delivering programmes on local, national and international scales. This work has been focused in the UK and international refugee, migration, trafficking and violence against women sectors. She has fulfilled front-line and managerial roles in major third-sector organisations.

**Vera Zakharov**  
Vera (she/her) is the Local Action Coordinator at Sustain. She supports Sustainable Food Places and other local stakeholders to share community-led best practice and advocate for Government leadership on healthy, just and sustainable food for all. She also works to improve LGBTQ+ visibility and accessibility in the UK community food sector.

**Vicki Hird**  
Vicki (MSc FRES) is Strategic Lead on Agriculture for The Wildlife Trusts UK. She was Head of the Sustainable Farming Campaign for Sustain: The Alliance for Better Food and Farming with 35 years in farm policy. She is also a published author, entomologist and runs an independent consultancy.

**Vincent Dauby**  
Vincent is the research officer at Agroecology Europe. He’s been engaged with agroecology for ten years through civic engagement with peasants and activists in Belgium and abroad. Vincent has an Ms in Agroecology, a Certificate in Development, an Ms in Business Engineering and a Certificate in Environment Management. Vincent has worked for Belgian and international NGOs as a food and sovereignty officer. He has also worked on climate and agroecology, on finance for agroecology, and on global food governance.

**Walter Pirri**  
Walter (IT) is an environmental scientist by training and started working for Valdibella 9 years ago. Valdibella is a farmers’ cooperative of 31 small-scale producers from Sicily. They co-founded The Food Hub in Belgium, which is now their biggest customer for their fresh produce. Walter is the bridge between the two co-ops, where his responsibilities include handling orders, helping farmers, and cooking incredible pasta on a Belgian market.

**Will Steadman**  
Will is the Funding Manager at the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and leads the foundation’s food and farming work. This involves supporting over 50 organisations around the UK who are working towards a fairer food system that improves outcomes for nature and communities, and supporting farmers to lead the transition to nature-friendly farming at scale.

**Will White**  
Will is Sustainable Farming Coordinator at Sustain. He has a background in implementing Agroecological farming methods and managing vineyards. Will has also previously worked on issues surrounding food poverty, having coordinated food bank campaigns in Bristol and Manchester. Will is a dedicated advocate for nature friendly farming and fairness across the entirety of the food supply chain.

**Zanna Hoskins**  
Zanna of Spindle Flowers is a grower of foliage trees and shrubs on 1.5 acres of land in West Dorset. She is a writer, florist, teacher, wholesaler, and foliage farmer with over 10 years experience in the British Floriculture Industry. She leads a collaborative 0.25ha foliage growing trial and has been involved in setting up the Flower Grower Collective, an asset-locked co-op bringing florists and growers together in one on-line place, allowing florists to access locally grown flowers.



## EXHIBITORS

The **Beaver Trust @beavertrust** vision is of thriving waterways vibrant with life, where beavers are embraced as a vital part of our biodiverse landscape. Established in 2019, the organisation seeks to provide practical solutions to help people live alongside beavers and support legislation that rebuilds ecosystems and strengthens climate resilience in a time of ecological and climate crisis.

The **Biodynamic Association (BDA) @BiodynamicUK** is the UK charity dedicated to supporting farmers, gardeners, growers and foresters to use biodynamic methods and gain BDA Certification as applicable. The Biodynamic Association works closely with its partner charities, the Biodynamic Agricultural College (BDAC) and the Biodynamic Land Trust (BLT). Together the BDA and our partners promote biodynamic techniques that protect the environment and safeguard our precious natural resources through the regeneration of our soils and lands. Biodynamic farming encompasses a system where the health and vitality of soils, plants, animals, people and our earth is paramount.

The **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) @CSANetwork** Network is a multi-stakeholder cooperative for CSA farms across the UK with over 200 member farms. We are the only organisation in the

UK dedicated to promoting and supporting the UK CSA movement. We do this through a programme of strategic mentoring, training, events, networking, advocacy and communication all aimed at achieving a CSA in every neighbourhood.

The **Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)** representatives will be at the ORFC to harvest suggestions, concerns and feedback on farming support from delegates and showcasing new schemes and grants available to Stakeholders.

The **Ecological Land Cooperative** develops low-impact residential smallholdings for new entrants to agroecology and ecological landwork. Our vision is to see farms which provide sound livelihoods and healthy food for local communities, whilst improving ecology and biodiversity. We are a member based cooperative with land-based stewards at the heart of our work and decision making. We currently own seven sites across England and Wales, supporting seventeen unique land-based enterprises with opportunities for many more.

**Future Nature** is the consultancy arm of the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust, dedicated to supporting farmers, landowners, and communities in creating a

greener, more sustainable future. Our expertise spans ecological surveys, environmental land and farm management advice, SFI and Countryside Stewardship applications, and pioneering green finance projects. By reinvesting our costs directly back into the charity, we ensure that every project contributes to our mission of 'more nature everywhere.'

**Innovative Farmers @IFarmers** is a not-for-profit network, managed by Soil Association, that connects farmers and growers with researchers to conduct on-farm trials known as field labs. Since 2012, we've launched over 150 field labs across the UK, awarding over £650k of funding in small grants to groups of farmers. Our network extends across the UK and is open to anyone who farms or grows commercially; whether in dairy, arable, horticulture, livestock, on a small-holding or an estate.

The **Landworkers' Alliance @LandworkersUK** is a grassroots union of farmers, foresters and land-based workers in the UK and part of the global peasant movement for food sovereignty, La Via Campesina.

**Mostly Books** is an award-winning independent bookshop in Abingdon, Oxfordshire. Community focused with a well curated selection of books, the shop prides itself on providing excellent customer service,

## EXHIBITORS

together with an ever-changing events programme. Mostly Books has been shortlisted for Independent Bookshop of the Year at the British Book Awards for the past seven years and was named South East Independent Bookshop of the Year in 2023.

The **Nature Friendly Farming Network (NFFN) @NFFNUK** is led by farmers who have come together to champion a way of farming that is sustainable and good for nature. The NFFN seeks to unite farmers across the UK who have a sustainable outlook and to secure positive changes in policy, including how farming is supported by the public. The NFFN promotes knowledge exchange and collaborative working to achieve substantial and sustainable change for the future.

For selling fresh food to local customers, **Ooooby @ooooby** is a steward-owned platform that increases sales, simplifies packing and optimises deliveries. Our food system is ripe for decentralisation. Independent food producers are underpaid, and households overpay due to centralised supply chains extracting most of the value. Ooooby is changing this by building an online trading platform for small-scale food producers. Our platform is already facilitating thousands of food orders every week and is growing fast.

The **Organic Growers Alliance @OGAgrowers** is a peer-to-peer support network of growers, farmers and horticulturalists. It's a Community Interest Company run by an elected committee, all of whom are volunteers. Membership is open to anyone actively engaged in commercial organic growing. Join the OGA today and be part of a growing network.

**At Pasture for Life @PastureForLife** we believe grazing animals power the regeneration of landscapes, economies, food cultures and communities in the UK. We help farmers harness the power of pasture for the benefit of the natural world, their communities and themselves. We are a membership organisation and we empower farmers through farmer-to-farmer learning, meeting them where they are. We develop the market for the products and natural capital generated by certified producers. We demonstrate the benefits of grazing animals on pasture to convince others.

With a goal to promote a deeper understanding of our interconnectedness with the natural world and with each other, **Shumei @shumeiintl** works to share knowledge about the Natural Agriculture approach to farming, which avoids the use of any fertilisers, chemicals, pesticides or additives. Prioritising harmony with

nature and natural living seeds, Natural Agriculture encourages communities to reconnect with nature and regenerate the land.

The **Soil Association's @SoilAssociation** vision is regeneration. We know food, farming, and forestry can lead the way to a better future – with good livelihoods, thriving wildlife and a safe climate. Using our 75 years of experience, we support everyone to work with nature and build practical solutions – from the ground up.

**Triodos Bank @triodosuk** is a leading expert in sustainable banking, our mission is to help create a society that protects and promotes quality of life and human dignity. Since 1980, our sustainable financial products have enabled individuals and organisations to use their money in ways that benefit people and the environment.

Founded in 1972 the **Woodland Trust @WoodlandTrust** is the largest woodland conservation charity and a leading voice in bringing the UK's trees and woodlands to the attention of Government, land owners and the public. With a supporter base of half a million they were the first and remain the most significant contributor to woodland protections, restoration and creation in the UK.



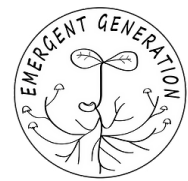
WITH THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING SUPPORTERS OF ORFC 2025

Adrian Audsley	Hugh Yarrow	Roger Kerr
Alice Favre	Incredible Edible Barnet	Royal Agricultural University
Allie Gressler	Jamie Cowie	Sandy Lane Farm
Angela Raffle	Jane Cooper	Scott Donaldson
Ballymaloe Cookery School	Jess Yarrow	Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust
Ballymaloe Organic Farm School	Joanna Kamal	Shumei International
Barbara Heinzen	John Hill	South Ormsby Estate
Brighton & Hove Food Partnership	Jude Becker	Stir to Action
Caleb Rogers	Julie Hudson	Sustain the alliance for better food and farming
Carbon Bank	Kevin Kennedy	The Community Farm
Chettle Estate	Kitten Grayson	The Community Supported Agriculture Network UK
Christine Denwood	Koen van Seijen	The Gaia Foundation
Christopher Yap	Leyla Cook	The Wildlife Trusts
Churchtown Farm	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust	Tilly Jarvis
COFARM	Linked.Farm	Tim Williams
Commonland Foundation	Liz Dowler	Tom Rigby
Compassion in World Farming	Lizzie Sagoo	Treveddoe Farm
Daniel Scharf	Marian Boswall	Trevor Price
David Stockings	Marian Boswall	Trill on the Hill
Drew McNaughton	Mark Borthwick	Tyddyn Teg Cyf
Emergent Generation	Mark Stein	Voedsel Anders
Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit	Matthew Thomson	Whole Health Agriculture
Ennismore Foundation	Mind Your Wildlife Manors	World Animal Protection UK
Farming the Future	Nat Kannan	Wychwood Forest Trust
Fauna & Flora	Nigel Unwin	
Ferne Edwards	Norton and Yarrow Cheese	
Fraendi	Olivia Norton	
Greater Lincolnshire Food Partnership	Organic Farmers & Growers CIC	
Greencuisine Trust	PAN UK	
Grovehurst Farm	Patrick MacManaway	
Harper Adams University	Patrick Mulvany	
Helen Taylor	Penelope Salmon	
Howard Davies	Phil Haughton	
	Rainforest Saver	
	RICO LAB cv	

WITH THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS AND FUNDERS



# ORFC 2025 PARTNERS AND MEDIA PARTNERS



ORFC is a project of the Real Farming Trust (RFT), a charity devoted to food sovereignty and agroecology which connects and supports people who are transforming our food system from the grassroots up. Learn more at [realfarming.org](http://realfarming.org)