



THE LAND OF COMMON SENSE



No. 15
5th October 2022

An occasional newsletter from the Community Farm at Donington-on-Bain.
Contact us at Doncomfarm@gmail.com or come on down to our Field on a Saturday morning!

A week of welcomes

The first ever field trip from De-Aston School to the Community Farm was a re-sounding success – if we measure ‘success’ by the high spirits and deafeningly loud singing heard on the bus on the journey back to school.

Members of the school’s Gardening Club, run by Harriet and Alison, and the Eco-Group, run by Tracey, paid a visit to the field last week. The idea was for the 12 to 15-year-olds to experience vegetables *in situ*, to identify them, harvest them, and to take some home to cook (and some to Mrs Perkins for her cookery lessons). One bonus was in hearing one student explain, as he collected donations from the others, how the farm worked, and how it is there for everyone.

The 4 girls and 9 boys were focussed on vegetables for a solid hour, exploring and understanding what they found, with a surprising amount of learning from each other. Thanks to Jude (“Miss, who’s that nice lady?”) for helping out!

Checkout De Aston FB page for more pics.
Thank you guys—you made our day.



Its official—vegetables are fun and make us happy!

Bring the Children!
‘Children’s Morning’ is 27th October—whether you’ve been before or not, come on down for an hour or two of vegetable fun!

“Lovely to see you —hope to see you again soon!!”

Another first since lockdowns was, last Saturday, to welcome a few people, at the same time, to our community field. Whether you feel like weeding or harvesting or giving advice or just enjoying a balmy autumn day, we’d love to see you too on a Saturday morning.

So thanks for coming down Robin, Carol and Chris, and a ‘nice to see you again’ to Richard!

A brief intro by Claire, a wander round the field, a sharing of know-how and ideas, culminating in a welcome hot drink and some amazing home-made barley biscuits from Dulcie, made it a very pleasant morning.



Chris and Richard check out the roadside stall.

Field Report

The photos say it all really about what's going on in The Field...



Watch out leeks— here comes Dulcie!



Thanks for the photos, Alison



Still a bit of colour to be found—see chard, courgettes and sage (yes, Harriet, it is real sage, just not the one you might be putting in your stew that's all!)



Even the outdoor peppers are still in flower.

Calling for your pumpkin recipes please—that time of year for pumpkin pie, pumpkin soup, pumpkin jam (reeeally?)



Thanks for the photo, Jude (love the clouds too!)

Our message should be clear



Andrew and Grace make a great start in clarifying our message to visitors and passers-by by moving the noticeboard to the field we are currently occupying.

Even if our presence in Field 2 is temporary, we need to be clear in what we are saying—and we'd like to say it on our beautiful noticeboard...

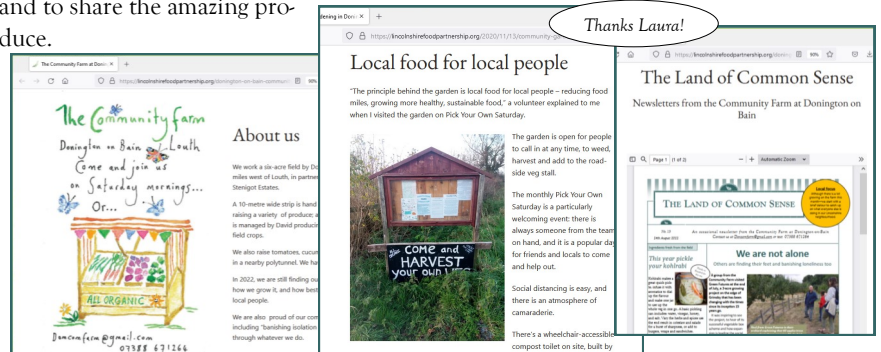
“Real farmers produce real food, which nourishes the soil, plants, and animals – including humans. Real food is at the heart of the health of the planet, as well as our health and well-being. Real farming has sustained the Earth and her civilisations over millennia.” Navdanya International (spearheaded by Vandana Shiva).

Going global—or just more visible as we build up a presence locally?

<https://lincolnshirefoodpartnership.org/donington-on-bain-community-farm/>

Thanks to the Lincolnshire Food Partnership we have an updated presence on the world-wide web. You can see our basic aims, our history, and all back issues of 'The Land of Common Sense'.

Talking of 'local presence', some regulars have decided to look into hiring a market stall in Louth at half-term, to build visibility, hopefully garner a few more volunteers, and to share the amazing produce.



Thanks Laura!

What are we up to?

Seed—we are going to order from the Seed Co-operative near Spalding and a group trip possible for 28th October. Send an email to Doncomfarm@gmail.com if you'd like to come.

Market stall—the idea of having a one-time market stall in Louth is back on the burner, to raise visibility and recruit volunteers. Possible date: 12th November.

Partner stalls—are also back on the agenda and a meeting is being organised to explore further with others who could help us make it work. Aiming for mid-November.

Children's Morning—27th October (in half-term). One child is great, many children is great fun for them! Oldies please come too, there will be tea, coffee and biscuits. 😊

Cambridge Food Hub— a trip to where food ecosystems all started, tentatively in the calendar for 3rd December 2022.