



Campaign to Protect
Rural England
CHESHIRE

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PRESS RELEASE

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Riverside Organics wins local food award!

The Campaign to Protect Rural England's Cheshire Branch [1] were delighted to give a 'Buy Local' [2] award to Whatcroft organic farm, Riverside Organic [3]. The award was presented by CPRE's North-West regional chair, Nick Thompson, at a local food celebration event in Knutsford last week. Shipbrook Hill Farm is a family-run farm with farm shop and café. There is a nature walk on the farm and it's possible for schools and other groups to book free visits. Farmer Simon Bennett is also running a second music festival (Whatfest) on the farm next month, building on the success of the previous year's festival.

CPRE Cheshire's Buy Local Awards are designed to reward businesses that provide their customers with the opportunity to buy good quality, locally-produced goods. The charity's Press and Membership Officer, Becca Nelson, commented "Supporting local producers and retailers is a real priority for us at CPRE Cheshire. In addition to a well stocked farm shop with a great deal of the produce grown/farmed onsite, Shipbrook Farm's links with local schools and the Farm Tots group really stand out as an excellent way to educate the next generation about the links between farming and food and the importance of buying locally".

Lymm-based CPRE Volunteer Charlotte Burton, who organised the awards, said "We were delighted with the response to the 'Buy Local' Food Awards - we received nominations for over 50 Cheshire businesses and producers who were clearly passionate about providing the people of Cheshire with locally grown produce and products. It is really nice that the award winners cover a range of local food businesses: as well as Riverside Organics, we have a butcher who's sourced locally for the last 80 years, a farm that are growing and chipping their own potatoes for sale to local pubs, a deli that is dedicated to increasing the profile of small producers and sourcing locally and a charity that supports adults with learning disabilities and grows fruit and vegetables for distribution via a mobile shop."

In addition to the Buy Local awards, CPRE Cheshire also maintains a database of local food suppliers on our website to help people who would like to cut down their food miles - www.cprecheshire.org.uk/farmshops - and are planning to put together some micro-scale local food maps in Cheshire towns. If you care about local foods and would like to get involved, they would love to hear from you - either by phone (01606 835046) or email (press.membership@cprecheshire.org.uk).

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Notes for editors:

[1] The Cheshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England is a membership-based registered charity which exists to promote the beauty, tranquillity and diversity of rural England by encouraging the sustainable use of land and other natural resources in town and country.

[2] CPRE's Buy Local Awards were launched at the RHS Show, Tatton Park, 20th July 2005. The scheme has been run annually since this date.

[3] Contact details for Riverside Organic:

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