

How to join

Please print clearly:

Title:..... Forename:.....

Surname:

Address:.....

.....

Post code:.....

Telephone no:.....

e-mail:.....

(In the interest of saving on postage, we will correspond by e-mail where possible)

1) Buy shares

Number of shares (£50 each)..... Total: £.....

2) Become a 'Friend of Wye Community Farm'

Annual subscription (£20) £.....

3) Make a donation

Amount to be donated: £.....

Total amount enclosed: £.....

Please make cheques payable to 'Wye Community Farm Limited' and return to Wye Community Farm, 2a Briar Close, Bramble Lane, Wye, Kent, TN25 5HB

Registered in England as an Industrial and Provident Society Reg No 30276R

Registered under the Data Protection Act 1998.

* Please note that membership is not open to those under the age of 16.

Different ways to be involved:

1) Buy Shares

By purchasing shares you become a part owner of Wye Community Farm Limited. You will receive a share certificate, will be invited to the Annual General Meeting at which you will have a vote, and can if you wish put yourself forward for election to the management board. To see the rules of Wye Community Farm Limited visit our website or contact us for a copy.

Share income will provide capital funding for the business, and allow WCF to take advantage of any future opportunities such as local land or buildings becoming available.

2) Become a 'Friend of Wye Community Farm'

An annual subscription, for which you will receive a quarterly newsletter, invitations to events, and access to a member's area on the WCF website. *Annual subscriptions will provide vital ongoing support for non-income generating activities, such as our education work.*

3) Make a donation

Any donation, however small, will help us to develop the many strands to this project. In-kind offers of professional input are also invaluable, as is anything of a practical nature – we recently took delivery of a donated ram!

Wye Community Farm

Your opportunity to be a part of this pioneering project

- * Reducing food miles and packaging waste by producing local food for local people
- * Providing volunteering and training opportunities in farming and rural crafts
- * Maintaining biodiversity through management of the Wye National Nature Reserve
- * Promoting awareness on food, farming and the natural world through farm walks, open days and school visits
- * Creating employment in agriculture and allied industries

Wye Community Farm, Wye, Kent

Printed on 100% recycled paper

www.wyecommunityfarm.org.uk

Background

The Wye Community Farm (WCF) initiative was launched in 2007, in response to the loss of agricultural teaching at Wye College. The initial intention was to secure a tenancy on the College Farm, and to develop a range of local food initiatives, education programmes, and conservation projects. Whilst our tender bid was unsuccessful, the tremendous enthusiasm shown for the project, from the hundreds of people who registered their support, encouraged the steering group to pursue other opportunities.

In spring 2008 WCF entered into an agreement with Natural England to manage part of the Wye National Nature Reserve (NNR). In grazing the NNR, WCF are producing 'local food for local people' and maintaining the chalk grassland upon which rare and endangered species such as the Black Veined Moth and Lady Orchid depend.

A busy 12 months later, and WCF is now:

- Managing 80 acres of grazing and woodland
- Producing lamb, beef, pork, logs and eggs
- Holding twice-weekly volunteer work parties
- Organising regular public events

WCF open day, demonstrating horse drawn timber extraction

Next steps

After this successful start, WCF is now in a position to offer you the opportunity to become involved and support this pioneering project. Wye Community Farm Limited is registered as an Industrial and Provident Society (IPS) for the benefit of the community. This structure allows WCF to sell shares to the general public, in order to raise funds to develop existing initiatives and finance future opportunities. These plans include:

- Securing further land and buildings, in order to expand the range of enterprises
- Developing an education and training programme; school trips, after school club, vocational training
- Promoting biodiversity and environmental improvement, through sustainable management of the Wye NNR and installation of renewable energy systems
- Creating paid employment and stimulating the local rural economy

WCF volunteers weighing lambs from our Poll Dorset/Dorset Horn flock

Wye Community Farm, 2a Briar Close, Bramble Lane, Wye, Kent, TN25 5HB

Telephone: 01233 813303

e-mail: info@wyecommunityfarm.org.uk

web: www.wyecommunityfarm.org.uk

"The dramatically changing farming economy means that we need to find new ways of managing land if wildlife is to continue to prosper within traditional landscapes. The Wye Community Farm, bringing together local people, the local landscape and the wildlife it supports, may show how this can be achieved."

- John Bennett, Chief Executive of Kent Wildlife Trust

James, one of our regular volunteers, getting a taste for farming

"Now, more than ever, we need to reconnect with where our food comes from, with our environment and with each other. The people and past students of Wye are doing this by creating this exciting opportunity for local food, education and low-carbon living."

- Jonathan Porritt, Chairman of the Sustainable Development Commission

Kalamar, a member of the WCF herd of British White cattle, at the Kent show 2008