

SPECIAL THANKS

BEHIND THE SCENES

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OPEN DAY



Thursday, 14 September 2017

Borough Farm
Holbeton
Plymouth PL8 1JJ



WELCOME

A passion for organic farming, innovation and the future direction of South Devon Organic Producers group is at the forethought of our minds with our Open Day on 14 September.

The co-operative was the brainchild of Riverford's founder, Guy Watson, who went in search of local producers that could supply him on a regular basis to help fulfil his ambition for Riverford to become the country's leading veg box supplier. It didn't take long for the company to achieve its ambition with South Devon Organic Producers, over twenty years later, still forming the base of Riverford's supply chain today.

Last year, we won silver award for Best Farming Partnership at British Farming Awards and earlier this year the group picked up Vegetable Grower of the Year at UK Grower Awards. It is testament to not only the hard work of the group and its staff but also proof that you can still have the principles of organic farming at the heart of an organisation while modernising and driving efficiencies at the same time.

The main challenge now, for this dedicated group, is to find new, young, enthusiastic growers to join, help re-energise us in future and take us forward as some founder members approach retirement. Organic growing is a big commitment and hard work, there is risk also, but we are in a unique position with this group with the fact we have guaranteed supply through Riverford and that is a huge opportunity. Now is a really good time to be involved in organic production.

EVENT SCHEDULE

MORNING

- 10:00 A.M. Event Opens
- 10:30 A.M. Welcome – Antony Coker, Chairman, SDOP
- 10:45 A.M. Our Profile – Caroline Westacott, Manager, SDOP
- 11:00 A.M. Organic Farming and Conversion – Ben Raskin, Soil Association
- 11.15 A.M. How Riverford and South Devon Organic Producers Work Together – James MacGregor, Riverford Organic Farmers
- 11:30 P.M. Farm Walk – John Walters-Symons

AFTERNOON

- 2:00 P.M. Welcome – Antony Coker, Chairman, SDOP
- 2:15 P.M. Our Profile – Caroline Westacott, Manager, SDOP
- 2:30 P.M. Organic Farming and Conversion – Ben Raskin, Soil Association
- 2:45 P.M. How Riverford and South Devon Organic Producers Work Together – James MacGregor, Riverford Organic
- 3:00 P.M. Farm Walk – John Walters-Symons