

SLOW FOOD BERWICK-UPON-TWEED CONVIVIUM

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Kevan Wylie (Vice Chair Jan-Sept 2021
& Acting Chair, September 2021-)



AGM 27TH JANUARY 2021

- 2021 AGM held by Zoom. Minutes taken by Kathy Orchard and circulated
- During the year, there were four resignations from the elected committee (Kate Gill, Sophie Hamilton, Maurice McNeely [Sept 2021] & Zoe Long [Feb 2022])
- During the year, there were three individuals co-opted onto the committee (Laura McGinlay, Ray McRobbie & Phil Elliott)
- One out-going member of the elected committee at the AGM 2022 (Linda Pepper)
- A sincere thank you is extended to all current serving and past members of the management committee for their commitment and expertise into the group



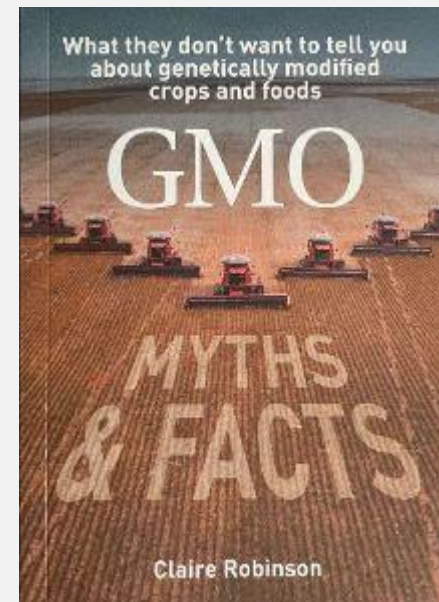
COVID & BSF 2021

- Huge impact on the local community, individuals and families
- Food & Beer Festival suspended in 2020
- Uncertainty & concerns about financial exposure led to the late confirmation of the 2021 Festival dates once partial lockdown was in place
- Suspended social events from calendar throughout the year
- Very limited opportunities for management committee to meet & most committee meetings were held by Zoom
- AGM 2022 delayed for various reasons including the expectation to allow for greater participation in person as easing of restrictions were expected



SLOW FOOD UK & BERWICK SF

- During the pandemic, all members have been able to access on-line demonstrations and talks offered by SFUK
- Incentives to increase the local membership at various events – with new members joining at the 2021 festival – increasing the membership to currently 28 members
- Convivium requirement is 20 members
- SFUK to become a charity this year (currently a limited company) alongside Slow Food UK Enterprise
- Slow Food Climate Declaration presented at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow (COP26)
- Free copy of GMO Myths & Facts for all members - available at this AGM



COMMUNICATIONS

- New Berwick Slow Food Website – developed & supported by Kreative Technology
- Mirrors the style of the existing BSF Food & Beer Festival Website
- New online form submission form for traders and street food vendors to upload all documents
- New Webmail system in place for officers and committee leads
- Creation on Google Drive containing all BSF documentation from 2007
- Reinstatement of regular newsletters using the SFUK mail chimp system – enhanced recipients on our various databases (members, supporters, volunteers, producers & traders). All GDPR compliant
- Social Media revamp with increased use over the year – Facebook, Instagram and Twitter
- School training packages (Zoe Long)
- Friends of the BSF introduced (Millie Stanford)



SUB-COMMITTEES (I)

- Trader Support (Ruth McNeely [chair], Sophie Hamilton, Millie Stanford, Jim Anderson (RIP), Kevan Wylie)
- Objectives:
 1. To continue to support traders through promotion in the absence of 2020 Food & Beer Festival
 2. To continue to develop Slow Food principles to public
- Website videos (4 slow food & 4 local traders)
- Berwick Food & Drink Fringe first event co-ordinated by BSF alongside Festival 2021
- Foodie film event @ The Maltings suspended until Spring 2022



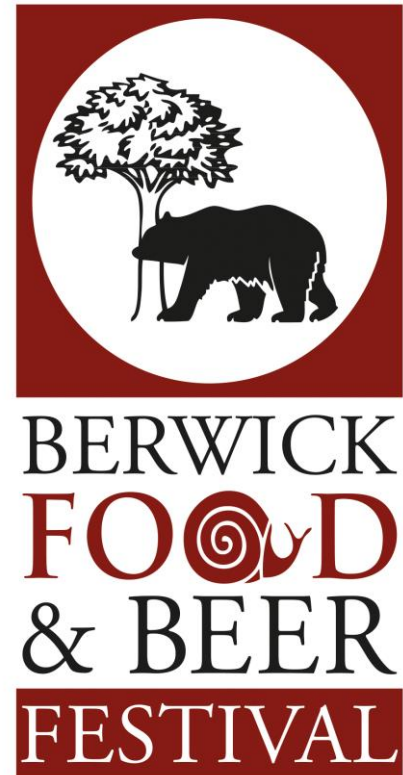
SUB-COMMITTEES (2)

- Bursary Support (Maurice McNeely [chair], Ruth McNeely, Sophie Hamilton, Ken Hardy, Richard Clay, Zoe Long)
- Objectives:
 1. To provide financial support for training to young person/s who would otherwise struggle to achieve a future in food / drink sector
 2. To promote the work of Slow Food
 3. To encourage partnerships with existing food initiatives in Berwick
 4. To help support young person/s to remain in Berwick for employment
- A number of local and regional High Schools and Projects informed
- Jack Howe made a successful application and was offered a bursary to attend the School of Artisan Food Advanced Bread Baking five day course in July 2021



FOOD FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 2021

- Approx. 4,000 visitors each day
- Free of charge throughout the weekend
- Restricted number of stalls and street food venues
- Beer festival suspended but Fringe events created for the first time
- Co-promoted with the support of the Town Council & the Berwick Festivals Group. Added into A-Ha!
- BSF stand with free educational materials developed in the previous year (Historical Foodie Trails & Producers Directory) alongside feebies
- Children's activities & Demo Kitchen throughout the weekend & Entertainment
- Festival Director Roles assumed & shared by the four officers (Kate Gill, Sophie Hamilton, Ken Hardy & Kevan Wylie) supported by committee members (Linda Pepper, Millie Stanford, Maurice McNeely & Zoe Long) . Steep learning curve for new members. Supported by previous FD Ruth McNeely and a large number of volunteers and returning sponsors. An earnest and huge thank you to everyone who helped restore this much valued part of the Berwick Social Programme.





LIAISON - LOCAL & ACROSS THE UK

- Slow Food UK (Shane Holland)
- Slow Food Scotland (Walter Mowat)
 - AGM 2022 Errichel – all welcome
- Slow Food Edinburgh (Eleonora Vanello)



LIAISON - LOCAL & ACROSS THE UK (2)

- Berwick Festival Directors Meetings
- Human Rights Celebration (Chris Jary)
- Berwick Climate & Nature (Mike Wilson)
- What A Wonderful World (Graham Head)



**THE GREAT
BIG GREEN
WEEK** 

Berwick-upon-Tweed

**WHAT A WONDERFUL
WORLD** 
Get creative NOW for a sustainable future!


Slow Food[®]
Berwick-upon-Tweed

THE YEAR AHEAD

- Return to face-to-face management committee meetings (suitable venue selections)
- Enhance the BSF website offering & develop a strategy between both websites supported by data from *Google Analytics*
- Return of social events calendar enhancing membership benefits wherever feasible & share some opportunities within Scotland
- Feasibility of a local producers hub in Berwick
- Resume trader support and bursary grants
- Appraise our children's and adult educational offering
- Develop our exiting and establish new relationships with local producers and traders. Facilitate member related events with an educational offering
- Appointment of Festival Directors (January 2022) for this year



○ Berwick ○ Festivals

Open Gardens
2—3 July

Berwick Food, Beer
& Fringe Festival
2—4 September

Berwick Film
& Media Arts Festival
8—11 September

Heritage Open Days
9—18 September

Berwick Music Series
23 September—23 October

Berwick Literary Festival
13—16 October

○ 2022 ○

SOCIAL CALENDAR

- April 8th: Foodie Film Night (The Maltings) Price £30
 - Three Course Meal followed by The Hundred Foot Journey
- April 23rd 2022: Monkey House Cider (Phil Elliott) Price £25
 - Berwick-based Monkey House Cider took the bronze medal in three categories of the International Cider Challenge 2021. The competition attracted entries from 18 countries on four continents
- May 6th 2022: Dinner at Pier Red (Joanne Weatherburn). Price £30
 - Showcasing local producers
- May TBC Foodful Tasting Event alongside Bear Claw & Karmic Cakery
- June TBC Cheviot Brewery Visit (Ford & Etal)
- Further events are being planned and organised and will be shared on our BSF website, our social media and by regular newsletter.



PIER RED
foodful



FURTHER PRESENTATIONS

- Financial Report by BSF Treasurer (Ken Hardy)
- Festival Progress Report for 2022 by BSF Festival Directors (Millie Stanford & Ray McRobbie)



COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

