

# FEEDING OURSELVES

## SOIL, COMMUNITY FARMING, REGENERATION & DIVERSIFICATION

**Saturday April 8th & Sunday 9th 2017**

WeCreate Centre & CloughJordan Community Farm  
CloughJordan Ecovillage, Tipperary, Ireland



Join us for the annual **Feeding Ourselves** gathering! We will celebrate the soil beneath our feet, the food it provides for our communities, and the agroecological farmers and growers who work the land.

Feeding Ourselves 2017 will feature a soil symposium - including an introduction to a fascinating new citizen science project called **GROW Observatory** - with dedicated sessions on community gardens, sustainable farm diversification, community supported agriculture and the land workers alliance. We'll highlight inspiring examples of regenerative (agri)-culture activism - from farm hack to food policy councils.

### This two-day gathering also features...

**The Little Food Fair** An outdoor food market with produce and information from local producers

**SpeakEATsy** The now infamous event where food, poetry, music and compelling conversation come together in a convivial setting.

**The Spicebox of Earth** - An art exhibition on soil and the ecology of place by mob grazer and all-round food hero Clive Bright.

### Costs & Booking

1 day price €30.00 \*

2 day price €40.00 \*

SpeakEATsy €25.00

Full weekend - 2 days and SpeakEATsy €65.00

**Booking online at [cultivate.ie](http://cultivate.ie) or email [info@cultivate.ie](mailto:info@cultivate.ie)**

\* Some concessions available

This event is a fundraiser for CloughJordan Community Farm.

### Accommodation

Very affordable accommodation is available in CloughJordan Ecovillage. To book Django's Eco-Hostel see [www.djangoshostel.com](http://www.djangoshostel.com) or call +353 87 256 9348. Some B&B accommodation is also available in CloughJordan

### Unique Setting

The gathering will be held in CloughJordan Ecovillage one of Ireland's leading examples of an ecosystem of innovation: it includes over 55 low energy houses with community woodlands, renewable energy production, a wood-fired bakery, research gardens and the CSA Community Farm. WeCreate Workspace is a co-working space and innovation hub within the Ecovillage and home to Ireland's first community FabLab. The CloughJordan Community Farm is an example of community supported agriculture (CSA) and a cooperative approach to the supply of food to the community. It currently provides fresh vegetables, eggs and meat to over seventy member households in CloughJordan.

### CloughJordan Ecovillage



**Saturday April 8th**

### 09.30 Registration

### 10.00 Celebrating Progress from the Field

Appreciating where we are at? Inspiration, updates and progress from growers, communities and organisations active in the field of agroecology and community farming.

11.30 - Break

### 11.45 Soil, Satellites & Citizen Science

Introduction to the GROW Citizen's Observatory, a new pan European initiative to enable the emergence of a mass movement of participatory citizens generating, sharing and utilising data and knowledge on growing and the land, leading to more sustainable land use practices, smart soil and land governance and policy, and a unique data repository for science.

Pavlos Georgiadis (GROW, olive farmer Greece), Naomi van der Velden (GROW, Permaculture Association of Britain), Ben Whelan (GROW Cultivate) Facilitated by Oliver Moore (GROW, Arc2020)

### 13.00 The Little Food Fair

An open-air mini food market local food and drinks stalls, seeds, information and craic.

### 14.15 Feeding Ourselves Open Sessions

(Also open to people coming to the Food Fare)

#### [1] Mixed-Veg Polycultures and Forest Gardens

Naomi van der Velden from the British Permaculture Association outlines the benefits of plant communities.

#### [2] Can Growing Hemp Help Save Small Farms?

Pavlos Georgiadis (Cannabio Co-op Greece) and Kate Carmody (Beale in North Kerry) discuss the benefits of growing hemp and the progress in Ireland and Europe.

#### [3] Farm Hack - Developing appropriate, open source tools for agroecology

Ben Whelan, (Cultivate & WeCreate FabLab), Eimhin Short (Growery) and Pat Malone (CloughJordan CSA) discuss the possibilities.

#### [4] Mega Bites - Visual Tools for Sharing and Learning

Bruce Darrell, RED Gardens on the why, how and what next of YouTube videos for growers and Joe Fitzmaurice, Riot Rye, on peer learning through Instagram

15.30 - Break

### 15.45 The Soil Symposium

The health of the soil is key to the health of our plants, our food, our communities and ourselves. In this public conversation Irish and International experts discuss soil and its necessity for our wellbeing. Bringing People 4 Soil campaign, GROW OBSERVATORY, Organic farmers, Permaculturists and community gardeners together in a dynamic conversation on the importance of soil. Kevin Dudley (CloughJordan CSA), Naomi van der Velden (GROW, PAB), Pavlos Georgiadis (Greece), David Beecher (Cork) Clive Bright (Rare Ruminair) facilitated by Davie Philip (Cultivate)

### 17.00 Feedback and reflections from our surprise keynote listener.

17.30 - Close

### 18.00 - 19.00 Land Workers Alliance

#### Pow Wow on CloughJordan Community Farm

Fergal Anderson (Leaf & Root) and Fergal Smith (Moy Farm) lead a conversation on the needs for a network of small farmers and land workers.

**Sunday April 9th**

### 10.30 - Farm Walk / Ecovillage Tour

A detailed tour of the CloughJordan Ecovillage and Community Farm, including the orchards, research gardens, the community apiary. See the progress on the community amphitheatre and many of the sustainability features of the ecovillage and CloughJordan Community Farm.

### 10.30 - Launch of the Land Workers Alliance

Establishing a new organisation representing the interests and defends the livelihoods of people producing food, fuel and fibre using sustainable and agroecological methods of production. Agriculture is too important to be left to the interests of agribusinesses. Farming is not about making profit at any cost – it is about supporting the communities and sustaining the ecosystems of where it takes place. Food and agriculture systems are collective responsibilities and we must all engage with these issues to ensure the land and landscape can nurture future generations.

### 12.30 The Little Food Fair

An open-air mini food market with local food and drinks stalls, seeds, information and craic.

### 14.00 Feeding Ourselves Open Sessions

(Also open to people coming to the Food Fare)

#### [1] Farm and Regional Diversification

A hosted exploration into diversification at farm and regional level. Featuring Mimi Crawford (Crawford's Farm, micro dairy and organic raw milk butter & cream home deliveries); Thomas O'Connor (Mana Organics) and Niamh Ni Duill (Transition Kerry Food & Biodiversity working group) 'Creating a sustainable food roadmap for Kerry for 2030.

#### [2] Do food policy councils mainstream food sovereignty?

Influencing local food policy to develop a healthy, sustainable, & resilient food system. Cork Food Policy Council and the sustainable food lab - turning disused public land into community groweries.

#### [3] Changing Food Perceptions Through Community Gardening

Dee Sewell (Community Gardens Ireland) leads an exploration on the benefits of community gardening in Ireland

#### [4] Open source software for CSAs

Carolin Gruber (Dublin CSA) introduces OpenOliator, software that supports CSA initiatives by providing reliable and timesaving administrative capacity to manage complex structures.

### 15.00 Break and CSA film screenings

### 15.30 Celebrating Community Supported Agriculture

A dynamic session led by the Irish CSA Network on why we need CSAs, how best to maintain them, how we can support getting more established as well as improving communication and synergy between them.

17.00 - Close



## THE LITTLE FOOD FAIR

Saturday 11.00 - 14.00 & Sunday 12.30 - 14.00

An outdoor food market with produce and information from local producers: Wildfire Pizza, The Night Orchard, Riot Rye, CloughJordan Community farm, Middle Country Cafe Co-op, Crawford's Farm, the Chilli Farm, Harmony Gardens (NextGen CloughJordan).

## speakeatsy

Saturday April 8th 19.30 till late

### A convivial evening of food, art, music, poetry and dancing

Experience a tasty and thoughtful meander into a world where music and poetry, farming and food, arts and nourishment weave together seamlessly. This unique event includes a meal, music, spoken word and a public conversation in a convivial community setting.