

## ***Press release***

### **GROW LOCAL WITH THE BLANE VALLEY ALLOTMENT GROUP**

Our 'Grow Local' event on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September in Strathblane Primary School aimed to encourage and promote the use of local producers including fruit and vegetables, meat producers, home baking and local crafts.

There was fun creative activities for children, fair-trade teas/coffees & home baking and live music. People were invited to complete a survey on local food growing which was then entered into a prize raffle for a hamper from Ardunan Farm with two lucky winners.



The survey produced very positive results with 84% of people actively supporting allotments in the Blane Valley and 91% would like to attend future events. 30% of the people surveyed wanted to have an allotment. There will a further 'open surgery' to tackle any issues that may arise as the group are determined to ensure the allotments contribute positively to the village.

Once a suitable site has been identified, the group will proceed with landowner agreements and planning permission. There will be garden skills workshops, guest speakers and more events to come that will involve the whole community.

While the group are becoming constituted, Mike McNulty is standing in as chair and has this to add:

'The Blane Valley Allotment group are wholly committed to creating a sympathetic, safe, healthy and attractive allotment site for our villages. Our Event is to celebrate the real benefits and enjoyment of growing your own fruit and vegetables. Thank You for the encouragement we have received from our supporters and from our funders.'

