

# THE BOWYER FAMILY MEMORIAL TRUST

*'supporting agriculture into the future'*



From your chairman  
David Bowyer

Maureen and I wish to welcome you to our Spring Newsletter 2013, at least it's a lovely sunny day in Devon although it is still cold, as everywhere in the UK this year.

As you know we changed our AGM to the summer months, and we would like to invite any of you to make the trip to Devon this year, as it is to be held on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August, at Great Rill Farm, with a light lunch at 12noon followed by the AGM and a committee meeting. Just let Maureen know if you are able to come for catering numbers, and first come, first served if you wish to stay over.

There have been no changes to our committee in recent years, although some members are not as active as they would like to be, so please think about joining our committee – we only meet three times a year and the AGM is one of the three and has become quite a social occasion – although not the Bowyer Fun Days of the past – perhaps we could resurrect them?.....

I again urge you to become a friend of the Trust. Either come and support us by helping or buying something from the stall at the Swallowfield Show or send us a donation.

In 2012 we received £290 from individual donations, and now a few giving monthly through Direct Giving, and I wish to thank you all for this very much. These donations are very much appreciated as our main income, the Car Boot Sales, was greatly affected by the terrible wet weather last summer. Also we took part in the green disc charity at Waitrose, Wokingham and were awarded £809.

## **What happened in 2012?**

### **Sponsorship**

Two local boys, have been given a small grant to help with Agricultural courses at Reading University.

We also supported a young lady taking Agric Business Management at Reading University by granting a small amount for each of the three years of her course, and the same for another young lady who started her first year at University.

Again we supported two students for their three years at Brymore School, and one ex Brymore boy who had gone on to Agricultural College.

We continued to support other Agricultural Associations by paying for an advert in their schedules, and the County of Berkshire Young Farmers Clubs, although last year we reduced the amount we have given previously due to our lack of funds and the declining membership of Berkshire YFC who now only have 4 clubs left and one of them not strong at all.

### **MERL Jubilee Fete – June 2012**

It was the first time we had attended this and we were not allowed to sell our produce as we do at Swallowfield, but to have a game to attract the children whilst we talk to the parents about what we do.

Thanks to the Hathaway family who brought along a 'shove ha'penny' and their children showed others how to play and some jubilee memorabilia for the children to win, this was a very

successful day. Not a fund raiser, but a good PR exercise.

### **Swallowfield Show – 2012**

As can be seen from the photos above we had Mary's large marquee again, and at first were disappointed that we could not fit in to our usual spot by the entrance gate, but we were given a place in the centre of the show near the main ring which worked out much better.

We sold more than half of our produce on the Sunday, which was just as well as the weather was not as good on the Monday and not as many people attended on the second day.

Our profit for 2012 was £1,150.

We also had extra helpers at the last minute including one of our recipients – so thank you to you all, but we still need helpers again this year so the regular few can have more breaks.

Can we also request items for our stalls, cakes, jams, chutneys, home made crafts and knitting, secondhand costume jewellery. Also the secondhand books sold very well - - so we need more stock for this year of all of the above, which can be dropped at White House Farm any time and we will store until August.

**History Books** – as we still have some stock of these books it has been decided to cut the retail price by 50%

Books now only £5 each.

Don't forget we still have some of the 2000 prints of the Royal Forest show for sale too at £15 each.

Contact the secretary.

### **Dates for 2013**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May** – Berks YFC Country Fayre at Amners Farm, Burghfield.

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June** –MERL's Fete – any volunteers to help would be welcomed.

**Sun/Mon 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> August** – this year's Swallowfield Show.

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