

THE BOWYER FAMILY MEMORIAL TRUST

'supporting agriculture into the future'



NEWSLETTER – February – 2014

From your chairman
David Bowyer

Maureen and I wish you a very Happy New Year, and hoping that this awful weather improves for a lovely Spring and Summer. I realise it was a long way for some to come to Devon last year but thank those who did for their support. This year our AGM will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 1st July 2014 at White House Farm, should anyone wish to come, followed by a committee meeting.

There have been one or two changes to our committee recently, Tim and Linda Chambers have joined us, and also Kate Munro-Ashman replacing Gordon Fletcher as our Berkshire YFC liaison member of the committee, we again thank these new members for their support – we only meet three times a year and welcome others to join our committee – as they say 'many hands make light work'.

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.

You will find the necessary forms on our website www.bfmt.org.uk also up to date information and lots of photos.

In 2013 we received £250 from individual donations, and £809 from Waitrose' local charities green disc scheme. Also we have some individuals giving monthly through Direct Giving, and I wish to thank you all for this very much. These donations are very much appreciated to add to our main income of the Car Boot Sales, although in 2013 we did have a 4x4 Show for 2 days on the land which generated some much needed income.

What happened in 2013?

Sponsorship

We supported **THREE** boys going to Brymore School for the next 3 years, two of our boys from 3 years ago have been made Headboy and Deputy Head in September 2013 (see photo above).

Also **FIVE** other people (aged between 17 and 25) taking various agricultural courses and their grants ranged from £500 to £1,500 each.

We continued to support other Agricultural Associations by paying for an advert in their schedules, and the County of Berkshire Young Farmers Clubs, who we supported at the County Rally by paying for rosettes in addition to their yearly cheque to be used to benefit all YFC members in Berkshire.

MERL Fete

We did not attend in 2013, but hope to have a good stall/demonstration this year.

Saturday 31st May 2014

We shall be selling home made biscuits so all donations would be welcome. Please take to White House Farm.
(No cakes, just biscuits for this event)

Swallowfield Show – 2013

As can be seen from the centre photo above we had Mary's large marquee again, and had our new place in the centre of the show near the main ring.

It seemed to be slow going last year but our profit was slightly up at £1,233. We had lots of helpers including one of our recipients – so thank you to you all.

We also had a special visitor Sir John Madejski who had opened the show and expressed a special interest in our work. We presented him with a copy of the Wokingham Agric Assoc History Book. He had heard of us through the Vice Chancellor of Reading University Sir David Bell who we have met in the past, as Sir John is the Chancellor.

'Good bit of networking – we hope!' He is in the photo above being introduced to our recipient helper, Oliver.

Again we ask for willing volunteers to man the stalls at Swallowfield Show, and also request items such as, cakes, jams, chutneys, home made crafts and knitting, secondhand costume jewellery. Also the secondhand books sell 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 – we still have some stock of these, and Henry Streets remain our premier retailer.

Books now only £5 each.

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

Contact the secretary.

Dates for 2014

Sunday 25th May – Berks YFC Country Fayre at Englefield Estate.

Saturday 31st May – MERL's Fete

Sun/Mon 24th/25th August – this year's Swallowfield Show.

Secretary to the Trust
Maureen Bowyer - Tel. 01398-361834
bowyer@tiscali.co.uk