



THE BOWYER FAMILY MEMORIAL TRUST

'promoting excellence in the science of agriculture'

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Newsletter – January 2005

First of all beginning with the sad news of the death of Mrs Vera Bowyer, affectionately known to many of us as Auntie Vera. She died at home at White House Farm on the evening of 7th January 2005, and our grateful thanks must go to Jackie Ayres and Gill Brooker for their time and unstinting devotion to her, to the last.

The funeral will be a cremation at Easthampstead Crematorium at 12.30pm on Friday 21st January, 2005, and afterwards at Trunkwell House, Beech Hill.
(could you please inform me if you intend to come, to help with catering arrangements)

The good news is that the Trust continues to flourish with income generated again last year from the car boot sales (£3,500), and other donations, including £500 from WRAA and £500 from Swallowfield Show which is held on the Chairman's land.

Therefore we were able to help the Berks Federation of YFCs with a donation of £1,000 last year, which the County Federation used for a new computer, so not only helping the organizers, but also indirectly the whole membership with better communications. Also three individual agricultural students involved in varying projects.

In September 2004 we were made aware of the intentions of moving the Museum of English Rural Life from land, where during the 1930s was managed by Charles Edward Bowyer as Farm Manager to the Colebrook Family, and we considered this to be a most suitable project for the BFMT. A beautiful listed building is being converted and added to near the Royal Berks Hospital, and at the last meeting of the trustees an amount was agreed to be pledged, and meetings have been held with MERL. A room will be known as 'The Bowyer Room' and within that room a permanent notice board of the aims and activities of the BFMT will be included for both the students and general public using the room to see.

Also we hope to finally bring 'The History of WRAA' book to publication during this year, and hope you will all buy a copy!

Again we shall not be holding a 'Family Day' this year, but you can catch up with family members at Berkshire YFC Country Show this year which is on **Sunday 22nd May 2005** at Highclere Park, Newbury, or at the **Wokingham Show on Sunday 4th September 2004** on Trust land at White House Farm, Spencers Wood.