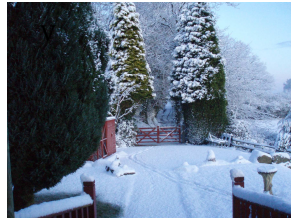




THE BOWYER FAMILY MEMORIAL TRUST

'supporting agriculture into the future'



views from Primrose House



From your chairman
David Bowyer

Maureen and I wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous 2010.

Again we have had a visit to Lancashire this week for Maureen's Uncle's funeral, and made it back home before the next lot of snow. So not a good start for us personally, but I thought I would take the opportunity of being housebound to send this newsletter out.

There have been no resignations or additions to our committee and the only change at the AGM was that Mary Cripps-Warwick became Vice-Chairman in place of Guy Charrison.

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

Last year we received £200 from individual donations; £163.72p from the collection bucket at the MERL evening, and £500 from the Swallowfield Show, and I wish to thank you all for this.

2009 turned out to be quite an eventful year –

April – over 40 people of all ages joined us for a social but informative evening at the Museum of English Rural Life, where Prof Brigden took groups on a tour of the artefacts and there was good food and drink and much reminiscing. A really good time was had by all, and this resulted in 6 new families joining our mailing list.

May - some of the Trustees again visited Brymore School and again were impressed with the ethos of the school, not just the improved facilities there. Also we were able to chat to two of our sponsored boys, one in his final year and one in his first year. We spent about 4 hours there and came away satisfied that our sponsorship there is well directed.

May 31st – we used our new feather banners for the first time at the Berks YFC County Day at the Newbury showground where we shared the county publicity marquee, the day was not well attended by the general public although Maureen and I did get to chat to one or two people – all good publicity.



August – our second presence at the 2-day show brought back customers from the year before and we completely sold out of fresh produce on both days and doubled our income from the previous year adding £375 to our funds. It was hard work for just a few loyal committee members and my thanks go to them and Mrs Dorothy Cripps for all her knitting and assistance on the day.



October/November – was our AGM but also the launch of our new website, and my thanks go to Brian Warwick and Maureen for this. Please take a look at www.bfmt.org.uk as we would welcome your feedback.

Again, apart from the donations already mentioned our main income has come from the Car Boot Sales.

Although we have turned down one applicant, and two others never followed up their initial approach, we have sponsored another boy for his 3 years at Brymore School, paid a second instalment of three to a young man on a degree course at the Royal College of Agriculture, and helped a young lady who is taking a Veterinary Nursing course whilst working at a Veterinary Practise.

We gave a donation of £250 to the RFAA to assist in the publication of a booklet to celebrate their 175th anniversary.

We again donated £1,000 to Berks Federation of YFC clubs, hopefully to be used to benefit all the members.

We also sponsored 6 youngsters attending a countryside day (some being YFC members) but all being our country people of the future!

We placed advertisements in various Agricultural Associations' schedules and circulated a poster to all Berks YFC clubs to encourage applications for our assistance.

This year we shall concentrate on the 2-day Swallowfield Show as our main fund raiser, please note the dates:

Sun/Mon 29th/30th August 2010

But please let us know any suggestions you may have for future social or fund raising events.

Secretary to the Trust
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