

## THE BOWYER FAMILY MEMORIAL TRUST

'promoting excellence in the science of agriculture'

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## Newsletter - December 2001

First of all, as your Chairman for the third year, may I wish all of you a happy Christmas, and a healthy and prosperous new year.

This year – 2001 – has been a notable year in any farmer's history because of the Foot & Mouth Disease, and all its repercussions on the countryside in general. Not least the lack of agricultural shows and other social events in our lives.

Because of FMD we were rather inundated with requests for assistance from agricultural students who wished to stay 'on campus' rather than return to their farms, and I am pleased to say that we helped all who applied. In addition we sent £1,000 to the RABI Farming in Crisis fund to help those farmers who have been in dire need this past year.

Once again we were blessed with good weather for a very successful Family Fun Day at Michael & Vanda Bowyers. I'm sure those of you who attended will agree it was a wonderful day, and I express my sincere thanks to Mike, Vanda and their family for all their hard work.

The Wokingham Show was of course one of the casualties of FMD – so 1<sup>st</sup> Septmber 2002 should be in everyone's diary, to make it a show to remember. We shall be going back to having our own individual marquee in a prominent position, and we would welcome as many family members as possible to partake of our hospitality or to offer their help on the day.

<u>Our ongoing project</u> of Kerr Kirkwood's 'History of Wokingham Show' - we are hoping to have a draft copy at the Wokingham Show for your to see, and we would like your opinion as to whether you think we would sell enough copies to justify its publication!

Our website is up and running and can be found at **www.iosystech.co.uk/bfmt/** - we are currently awaiting registration, when our web address will be <u>www.bfmt.org.uk</u>

## More dates for your Diary

Tavid 6. Dourges

**Sunday 9th June, 2002** - Berkshire Federation of YFC County Fayre will be held at White House Farm, and it is proposed this will be the best ever, with such things as carriage driving from White House Farm, around Wellington Park and back again!

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2002** – is the proposed date for the Family Fun Day next year at our house - Hazeland Wood, Ratford, Calne, Wilts.

**Sunday 1st September, 2002** - Wokingham Show – one of the fundraising schemes will be a draw for a ride in a Hot Air Balloon!