



THE BOWYER FAMILY MEMORIAL TRUST

'supporting agriculture into the future'

From your Chairman

First I must apologise for the lateness of this newsletter. Maureen lost her father just before Christmas, then we had the wedding of her elder son on 2nd January, 2009 and within a few days we temporarily moved to Berkshire—house sitting a farm for friends, and we are still here!

To those of you who we haven't seen yet this year, we wish you all the very best for 2009.

There has been one change to the registered trustees of the Trust—Maureen Bowyer has been added to the other 4 serving trustees.

We have also added to our working committee and welcome Gordon Fletcher, who I'm sure will be a valued member.

I enclose again a leaflet about becoming a 'friend' of the B.F.M.T.

You can either come and support us by buying something from our stand at the Swallowfield Show this year, or send a donation with the leaflet.

Last year we received £601.25 in private donations from our 'friends' and I wish to thank you all for this.

Now I turn to what has happened during the past year:

Our income again has been from the car boot sales and agricultural rents, with the usual donation from Swallowfield Horticultural Society.

We have given another substantial donation to Berkshire Association of Young Farmers Clubs. Again we have supported local agricultural shows by taking out full page adver-

tisements in their schedules/programmes, and in addition sponsored rosettes for the individual classes at the Berks YFC County Fayre last year.



We also had 8 individual applications for grants—we approved 3 of these—another boy at Brymore for 3 years—a past recipient who has now begun a BSc in Agriculture at the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester—and an ex Berks YFC member making a field trip to South Africa in her final year of a BSc in Zoology.

The history books still continue to sell slowly—our main retail outlets are Henry Streets; MERL; Lockey Farm Shop and Wokingham Town Hall.

Michael Bowyer has also produced an amusing tale from history entitled 'Nine days Holiday Tour in a Caravan' which took place in 1911 and involved his grandfather Henry Bowyer. On sale at £5 and all proceeds to the BFMT.

Our Fund Raising Day on 29th June 2008 was a most enjoyable day with 3 marquees of stalls, one for the bar and hog roast and tables and chairs set out all around. There was also have a go at archery and clay pigeon shooting—over 100 people attended, the profit made was just short of £500 which considering the ex-

penses of toilet hire; hog roast and insurance was not bad—grateful thanks go to just one or two people and they know who they are.



Many people asked if we could have another day like this next year, but it entails a lot of work, so perhaps 2010!

Some of the left over hand-made goods and more cakes and jams etc. were on our stand at the Swallowfield 2-day show and we made another £170 for funds. We intend making this our main event and you should be able to find us this year as we have purchased new flags and banners with our new strapline, to replace the old wooden sign and banner.

Events for 2009

We are holding an evening cheese and wine reception and a private tour of the museum at M.E.R.L., Reading

Friday 24th April, 2009

There will be a small charge for entry and we would like to know numbers, so please let the secretary know nearer the time, if you wish to attend.

Swallowfield Show

30th & 31st August 2009

We would welcome home-made cakes, jams, marmalades, garden produce—any home-made articles and clean paperback books to sell on our stand.

Secretary to the Trust,
Maureen Bowyer Tel: 01291-624425
Email: bowyer@tiscali.co.uk

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