

ADDINGTON

AddingtonFund

WINTER 2020

NEWS

www.addingtonfund.org.uk

Going beyond the call of duty

CEO's COMMENT

Welcome to the Addington Fund Winter 2020 newsletter. I continue to be delighted at the way the Addington Fund has adapted and performed over the last 10 months. Much of this is down to the influence and guidance of our 11 Trustees who under Peter Jinman's excellent leadership continue to go way beyond the call of duty.

I have to say as Chief Executive I have tried to work them hard and make the most of their wealth of knowledge. Not only do we hold quarterly Trustee meetings, but I have now created three sub-committees to cover Governance & Resource, Housing, and the Marketing & Fundraising Committee. The Chairmen of these three committees: Martin Redfean (our newly appointed Vice Chairman), Roger Wyatt and Christine Ryder along with Simon Mountjoy who Chairs the Addington Development Company Ltd, and myself all form Peter's Executive Team. All our Trustees serve on at least one sub-committee. I believe strongly that these committees have helped make decisions easier and the quarterly Trustee meetings allow each committee chair to report on progress. The devolved power makes the path to decision making shorter and all meetings are more focused and concise.

The new structure at Addington is starting to bear fruit and is reflected in our latest published accounts for year ending 31st March 2020, which show the Fund has increased its net worth by £250k to just under £12.4m. We have reduced our creditors too by over half a million and, despite returning the team to full strength at four, our annual operating costs are also now flat lining at £20k less than in 2016. To cap it all we paid out just under £100k more than the previous year in grants and assistance to



Bill Young Addington Fund CEO



Jonathon Jones OBE Addington Fund Supporter

deserving cases. All of this puts us in the very pleasing position that the Fund is becoming more and more sustainable and is currently paying out 90p in the £1 on all donations. Our next aim is to hit the 100% pay out but without deviating from our aims and progression as a charity. In the first six months, despite the likely loss of £200k in fundraising this year, our situation is holding up well due to the support of our donors and supporters. I do believe though, if the current situation continues well into next year and with the likelihood of a hard Brexit, things could get tricky not only for charities but for agriculture in general. On a personal note I would like to congratulate Charles Smith the former CEO at fellow agricultural charity FCN for his much deserved MBE for his 10 years' service and to Addington Supporter Jonathon Jones Trading Director at Tregothnan in Cornwall for his OBE for services to British Agriculture. Our longstanding Trustee Al Brooks has also picked up a notable modern award CPM Magazine Climate Change Champion 2020 – well done Al and all at Facombe Estate.

Bill Young

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas



MERRY CHRISTMAS from the team!

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Thank God for farmers

A Christmas Message from the Bishop of Warwick



Thank God for farmers. I mean that literally. I do thank God for farmers. Farmers do, arguably, the most important job in the world. It is not only important but it is a particularly challenging job. Beyond the now regular challenges of disease, of flooding, of drought, of TB, of fluctuating market prices, of financial uncertainties, farmers now face uncertainty about Brexit and its consequences for farming. On top of all this are the devastating effects of the Pandemic, impacting the physical and mental health of so many of us.

Farmers are essential workers. Farmers are the unsung heroes on whom we all depend but whose lives and work are not recognised by huge swathes of the population. What in my mind is in no doubt, however, is the value God places on farmers and farming. The Bible is full of farmers, farming and agriculture as the bedrock of life and society. The teaching of Jesus is largely in the language of shepherds and sheep, lost sheep, sheep and goats, sowers and seed, wheat and tares, vines and vineyards. Jesus even calls himself the Good Shepherd.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, we remember it was the shepherds who were the first to be privileged to witness the Christ-child. The Christmas message is that God comes to meet us where we are in the reality of our lives however

difficult they are and whatever struggles we face. Addington Fund and the other farming charities go some way to express God's love in action, in caring for farmers in practical and pastoral ways in the midst of the challenges they face.

So I thank God for farmers and I thank God for Addington, particularly for the dedication, care, commitment and professionalism of its staff, Bill, Sue, Mike and Annie.

I pray that you all, in the midst of the challenges we face, may know the peace of Christ and the love of God, this Christmas.

'He shall be called Emmanuel, which means God is with us.' Matthew 1.23.

Bishop John

ADDINGTON VICE PATRON

Special Thanks

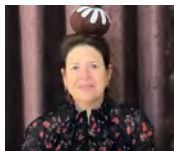
Our Virtual Carol Service

The Addington Fund would like to give "Special Thanks" to all of those who were involved in the making of our Virtual Addington Fund Carol Service.

We are truly grateful to all of those who made such an effort to get their videos and recordings sent in, to make this lovely creation happen in time for Christmas. Naturally, we would like to have hosted this event with you in person, but we are very proud of the content we have gathered together and of the video we have made, considering circumstances and all the obstacles in the way of this year.

THANK YOU TO....

- Reverend Geoff Dodgson for being such an amazing host
- All our Addington supporters for their readings:
- Reverend Canon Sally Fogden MBE (Agricultural Chaplain), The Countess of Bathurst (Addington Vice Patron), Milly Soames (Addington Vice Patron), Bishop John (The Bishop of Warwick and Addington Fund Vice Patron), Bishop Rachel (The Bishop of Gloucester) and Joe Greenwell (High Sheriff of Warwickshire).



EVENTS NEWS

20 Years of the Addington Fund

During the current climate, we are unable to celebrate 20 years of the Addington Fund in true party style, but we will be releasing a video in February all about the Addington Fund, our journey and how we have helped people.

We hope to include interviews with our amazing staff, stories from people we have helped and other memories from those who have been involved with the Addington Fund since it began. If you would like to get involved with our 20 years of the Addington Fund video, even to submit a testimonial for the video, please contact Annie on enquiries@addingtonfund.org.uk or call her on 01926 620135 opt 3.

Once we are allowed to host an event with larger gatherings, we plan to hold a drinks and nibbles reception at the Farmers Club in London. More information on this to follow when new guidelines are announced.

Thursday 17th December 2020

Addington Fund Virtual Carol Service
Video will be on our website and social media.

CANCELLED

Addington Fund's Warwickshire Advent Service

in Grandborough, due to take place on Tuesday 8th December, has been cancelled due to on-going Covid-19 restrictions



- The Choir of St Andrews for singing the carols so beautifully
- And Min-Min Peaker for singing Thorns in the Straw (Since the Day the Angel Came), with words and music by Graham Kendrick, arranged by: Jonathan Rathbone and piano: Richard Heyes.

Our virtual carol service will be released on our social media, on the Addington Fund YouTube Channel and on our website on Thursday 17th December 2020.

A day in the Lives of Devon and Cornwall's Farmers of the Year 2019



Devon's Farmers of the Year 2019

Matt & Rob Cotton

R & P FARMING

Winning titles:

Best Commercial Farmers 2019

Sponsored by: PKF FRANCIS CLARK

Devon's Farmers of the Year 2019

Sponsored by: MOLE VALLEY FARMERS

<https://youtube/jBayjnAJDjc>

Matt & Rob Cotton are farming brothers from Exeter who have been farming both crops and livestock since 2008. The Cotton brothers studied agriculture at Harper Adams University and have now become very successful farmers in their own right.

Farming 1,100 hectares of combinable crops alongside beef and sheep, Matt & Rob shone through in our judging process and won both Best Commercial Farmers 2019 and Devon's Farmers of the Year 2019.

The judges were very impressed by their hard work, respect for each other's opinions and abilities, and any new business opportunities were critically appraised for the returns they deliver with decisions being made always for the long-term perspective.



Principal Sponsor for both the Devon and Cornwall 2019 Farm Business Awards : **STEPHENS SCOWN SOLICITORS LLP**

Cornwall's Farmer of the Year 2019

James Kittow

JAMES KITTOW BUTCHER & GRAZIER



<https://youtube/MNK-vlTaYk>



Winning titles:

Best Farm Processor 2019

Sponsored by: SAVILLS

Cornwall's Farmer of the Year 2019

Sponsored by: MOLE VALLEY FARMERS

James Kittow is one of Cornwall's finest characters. James Kittow Butchers is a modern, progressive food processing business, specialising in the production of raw meat cuts, cooked meats and value-added products for catering and retail outlets.

Looking back into James's fascinating family history, you can see the Kittow family has been providing Cornwall with good quality, grass fed meats since the 1880's!

The judges were very impressed with James's enthusiasm, his love for agriculture, his ideas to expand and diversify his farm business, and his training programme for his staff and what he has planned for the future of his farm.



The Addington Fund Building has New Signs

As some of you may know, the Addington Fund is situated in Barford, near Warwick. A road passes right past our office building, where traffic is plenty, so we have decided to invest in some building signs and make our mark.



Cornwall Farm Business Awards

Future Plans & Our Short-Listed Candidates of 2021

The Cornwall Farm Business Awards 2020 have been rescheduled to Wednesday 9th June 2021.

The Cornwall Farm Business Awards were originally planned to take place on Wednesday 11th March this year but sadly had to be postponed due to the outbreak of coronavirus. We were hopeful that the awards were going to be able to take place on the rescheduled date, 29th October 2020, but because of the latest spike in cases of coronavirus and with current restrictions, the Addington Fund has made the tough decision once again, to reschedule and roll the Cornwall Farm Business Awards forward to June next year. Having the awards on Wednesday 9th June 2021, the night before The Royal Cornwall Show, brings it in line with The Devon Farm Business Awards as a pre-show event.

In the meantime, here's a reminder of our Cornwall category sponsors and their fantastic chosen short-listed candidates for The Cornwall Farm Business Awards 2020 / 2021:

Principal Sponsor: CORNISH MUTUAL

Best Commercial Farmer

Sponsored by: CARTER JONAS AND AMC

- **Chris Dustow**
(Colwith Distillery, CS Dustow and Sons)
- **Georgie & Errol Warman**
(Trevilly Farm)
- **Alec Bowden**
(WB Bowden & Sons).

Best Woman in Agriculture

Sponsored by: HANDELSBANKEN

- **Gemma Smale-Rowland**
(Cornish Moo)
- **Rona Amiss**
(Tregullas Farm)
- **Kate Martin**
(Treway Farm Turkeys)

Best Mixed Farmer

Sponsored by: PKF FRANCIS CLARK LLP

- **Ian & Will Lobb**
(Lower Kestle Farm)
- **Edgar, Marylin & James Bowden**
(JJ&M Bowden & Son)



Best Farm Processor

Sponsored by: SAVILLS

- **Chris & Rachel Knowles**
(Trink Dairy Ltd)
- **Will & Kate Martin**
(Treway Farm Turkeys)
- **Georgie & Errol Warman**
(Trevilly Farm)

Best Dairy Farmer

Sponsored by: SAPUTO DAIRY UK

- **Joe & Gemma Vernon**
(Trevigo Farm)
- **Peter Denton**
(Trevenning Farm)
- **Roger Kempthorne**
(Messrs J Kempthorne and Son)

Best Young Farmer

sponsored by: NATWEST

- **Dan Lethbridge**
(The Granary)
- **Jake Cleave**
(JR Cleave)
- **Ross Denning**
(RG Denning & Son)

...and to be revealed on the night:

Farming Champion

Sponsored by: NFU

Cornwall's Farmer of the Year 2020/2021

Sponsored by:

STEPHENS SCOWN SOLICITORS LLP

EVENTS UPDATE

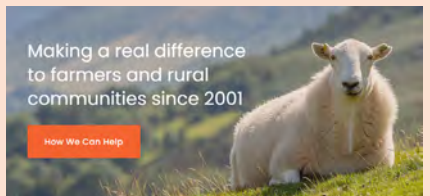
The date of our Devon Farm Business Awards has changed from Wednesday 19th May to Thursday 1st July 2021!

POP IT IN THE DIARY!

Our Cornwall Farm Business Awards will be taking place on Wednesday 9th June 2021

If Covid-19 restrictions stop us from holding our Black-Tie Events, we intend to make them virtual celebrations

Have you seen our new website yet?



We hope you like it as much as we do!

www.addingtonfund.org.uk

NEXT YEAR WE WOULD LIKE TO FILM THE AWARDS!

TO DO THIS WE WILL NEED A SPONSOR!

If this is something you would like to get involved with to support the Addington Fund, please send an email to: enquiries@addingtonfund.org.uk for more information.

It's officially official

We have broken the World's Longest Knitted Bunting challenge and we now hold the Guinness World Records title!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS!

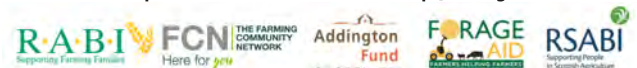
Don't feel alone this Winter

The UK's Farming help organisations are reminding people in the farming community not to suffer in silence this winter. If you are experiencing tough times, or you are concerned about a neighbour or friend...

CALL US ON 03000 111 999 IF IN SCOTLAND CALL 0300 111 4146

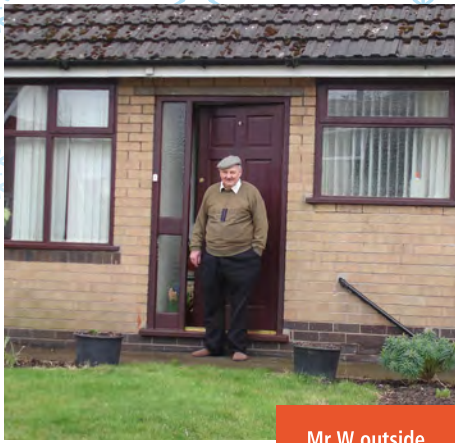
You will speak initially to a member of our Helpline team who understands the pressures of farming and the rural community. They will listen in confidence and can then connect you directly with further support if you wish.

Telephone: 03000 111 999 Email: help@fcn.org.uk



Helpline operated by The Farming Community Network on behalf of Farming Help members. The Farming Help Partnership is supported by The Prince's Countryside Fund.

GRANT & HOUSING WORK



Mr W outside his Addington home

Our Strategic Housing Scheme

How it all started

In November 2002 we bought our very first home for our very first applicant to our Strategic Housing Scheme. Mr & Mrs W were in their late 70's then, when they left their tenanted farm. We had only just launched our housing scheme in September 2002 and I still remember how I was asked to quickly design an application form for them, as they were so quick to apply, we hadn't yet created one.

As a couple they spent 16 of the last 18 years together in an Addington house, until ill health forced Mr W into residential care, leaving his dear wife. Fortunately, the care home was in the village where they lived so regular visiting wasn't a problem.

Since our last newsletter, we received the very sad news that Mr W, who was in his 90's, had lost his battle against cancer and, for us, his death has been particularly poignant, not only because he was a great character, but also our very first tenant. His wife continues to live in their family home, and she is blessed to have a close knit and dedicated family around her. The couple have been with us for 18 years and we hope that Mrs W will continue to live in her Addington home for many more years.

2020 has left three of our families bereaved and we will do our best to continue to look after those left behind. In our last newsletter we mentioned that we were unable to accept any new applications for housing due to fully committed funds. We think our housing work is

unique and when our homes are no longer needed, they are put on the market for sale, with the proceeds coming back to Addington to help future farming families.

This has happened recently, enabling funds to come back to the charity which will be used to help other farmers retiring from agriculture who need help with housing. The housing market is currently buoyant, and we have to be very quick to get an offer in and accepted before someone else snaps up the property – with rural properties in village locations particularly in demand since Covid-19.

If you are a retiring tenant farmer and need help with finding a future home, please do get in touch with us. We have the capacity to buy 5 more retirement homes in this financial year. All calls are treated sympathetically and with discretion.

Help for Farm Workers - George Stephens Trust Fund

If you currently work or are retired from working on a farm in England, and have a low income, we may be able to help with a one off grant towards certain household equipment – such as white goods and essential household furniture. Please contact us for more information.

Grants

Our grants department has been quiet over the summer. We are here to help (usually by providing animal feed) in times of emergency which affects your finances. Grants are made in the form of compound animal feed, delivered in conjunction with our feed partner ForFarmers and hay and straw through Abbott & Co.

If either you, or someone you know is experiencing difficulty feeding livestock where there is a potential welfare issue and have nowhere else to turn please contact us.

New Patron

Our long-standing Patron Lord Robert Illiffe who has been an absolute stalwart for Addington has announced his intention to stand down as our Patron. He will be a big loss to the Fund and our Trustees have now drawn up a shortlist of potential new Patrons.

It is our intention to appoint a new Patron to work with our existing Vice-patrons The Countess Bathurst, The Hon Mrs Rupert Soames and the Bishop of Warwick and new team of high profile Addington Fund ambassadors to promote and publicise the work Addington does. We hope to unveil all this next year as part of the Addington Fund's 20th birthday celebrations.



Are you the next...

Addington Artist Extraordinaire?

We have enjoyed plenty of years with our current Christmas card designs, but we feel it is time for a bit of a change and a new look.

If you enjoy drawing, painting and/or photography then we would like you to come up with a new Christmas card design for the Addington Fund! If you are one of the lucky top five, you will receive a lovely Addington hamper and we will use your artwork for our Christmas card collections, that we sell each year to raise vital money for the Addington Fund.

WHAT WE REQUIRE:

- Christmas and Agricultural theme designs
- Send in a clear picture of your artwork to enquiries@addingtonfund.org.uk
- Don't forget to give us your contact details, name, and age (if you want to!)
- Tell us your social media names if you would like to be tagged as one of the top five chosen winners
- Give your artwork a relevant name/title
- Don't throw away your masterpiece (as we may need your original for printing)

HOW IT WORKS:

- We will choose five of our favourite designs
- Those designs will be used for our new Christmas card collection to sell each year to raise funds for the Addington Fund
- If you are a top five winner, you will receive a lovely Addington hamper
- You will be announced as our top five winners in the next Addington Newsletter after the entry closing date, announced on our social media and on our website.
- Your name can be printed on the back of the card eg "Mr Jones, Addington Artist Winner 2020"

COMPETITION OPEN NOW! Entries close: **FRIDAY 26TH MARCH**

Bill Young's tribute to Greg Anderson

FARMER, CONTRACTOR, SUPPORTER AND ALL-ROUND GOOD BLOKE

On Sunday 13th September I attended a tractor parade near Great Yarmouth as a tribute to farmer, contractor, agricultural auditor, YANA supporter and all-round good bloke Greg Anderson from Lessingham. Greg was tragically killed in a car accident in August.

I had known Greg for 18 years having employed him as an auditor when I was at NSF Agriculture in 2002. History had taught me that farmers generally do not make good auditors as they cannot accept the discipline of working for other people but that intake was different, in that Greg and the two others recruited at the same time in the Eastern Counties, Mark Lewis and James Brown, were all customer orientated and had the necessary empathy to be excellent Red Tractor inspectors.

In Greg's case he bought a nice farm in 1992 and realised that that alone was not enough to support a family so had established an excellent spray contracting business. Indeed, the first time I met him on his induction course at Harper Adams we spent the evening debating which was the best self-propelled sprayer.



Greg took to auditing like a duck to water. He had the necessary knowledge and IT skills but first and foremost his disposition was such that he had the right temperament and personality to deliver an audit to whomever was before him.

In no time at all Greg became a "super" auditor capable of doing Red Tractor crops & sugar beet, beef & lamb and fresh produce along with the specialist bolt on audits such as Tesco Nurture, LEAF and Pepsico. He had a lovely style in that he was firm but fair in a non-confrontational way which gained the respect of his colleagues at NSF and the farmers he inspected. Greg was bright enough to realise too that he needed an extra income to overcome succession problems and by concentrating on auditing it enabled his son to take over the contracting business and some of the decision making on the farm. We both agreed that the best farmers we knew had taken on responsibility at an early age and that set them apart. Since 2015 he also became a specialist compost and brown waste auditor which again set him apart in a very lucrative niche area.

Of course, like everyone Greg had his own problems to deal with and he was very open with me about some of his own mental health issues, which taught me a lot as his manager and I learnt to adjust his work accordingly. It is great to see the collections in his name going towards that excellent East Anglian based charity YANA (You Are Not Alone) who do such remarkable work in the rural sector and have really shone out this year like some of the other regional charities.

I miss Greg greatly especially our private Twitter conversations, the last one being about the dire nature of The Archers Monologues during lockdown. Greg was a man apart, the sort of guy nobody could dislike, kind, considerate, yet with a quietly mischievous streak. The tractor parade was a fitting tribute to Greg but our thoughts go most of all to his wife Diana and sons James and Michael.



"Greg was a man apart, the sort of guy nobody could dislike, kind, considerate, yet with a quietly mischievous streak."

What's Ahead

While most of us will be glad to see the back of 2020, we cannot forget that a lot of uncertainty lies ahead too. Key Addington supporters and strong leaders in agriculture like NFU President Minette Batters, Farming Help Chairman Lord Curry and The Commons Chair of Environment and Rural Affairs Committee Neil Parish MP in particular, have all had their hands full in protecting our great industry and we would like to thank them all for their tireless work in 2020. Let's hope 2021 sees an upturn in all our fortunes and agricultural prices hold up without an increase in the cost of production and, at least more crops are in the ground than this time last year.

FINAL THOUGHTS...



Congratulations

Congratulations to longstanding supporter and friend Reverend Geoff Dodgson who was ordained Deacon at Ely Cathedral on 26th September. He is now serving as a curate in the Papworth Team in Cambridgeshire which is made up of 15 small rural parishes including Geoff's home parish of All Saints Lolworth.

Standing Down

Lindsay Sinclair the long-standing CEO of The NFU Mutual has announced his intention to stand down next March 2021. Lindsay has been a fantastic Addington supporter over the years and will be sorely missed and we wish his successor Nick Turner every success in his new role.

Call for Raffle Prizes

Do you have any prizes to donate for our raffle and auction for our Cornwall and Devon Farm Business Awards? Contact Annie on 01926 620135 (opt 3)

AddingtonFund

Our Five Remits

- Disaster Relief
- Retirement Homes
- Affordable Homes
- Young Entrants Scheme
- Helping Farmworkers

For the latest Addington Fund news and updates follow us...



Registered charity number 1097092