



...Continued

fantastic – over 5,000 members of the public have signed the pledge to support our local farmers.

Stephens Scown also asked for people to send their 'milk moustache selfies' which proved a great hit and which they promoted via social media and on the website.

Taking the campaign on the road to agricultural and county shows around the region, they were overwhelmed with the real strength of public support and many people physically signed up there and then to give their backing. They gave away shopper bags with the campaign details on to help spread the message further raising over £282 for

the Addington Fund.

The dairy industry remains seriously stretched. It's a long-term problem that won't be solved overnight. That's why the next stage of Stephen Scown's campaign will see them sharing the findings with MPs and others to highlight the problem and encourage more action to be taken. The grass roots support is there for our dairy farmers. We need to maintain the pressure to ensure that farmers are receiving a fair price that enables them to put their businesses on a sustainable footing for the future.

Cornwall Farm Business Awards 2016

Our seventh Cornwall Farm Business Awards concluded with an awards dinner on 25th February at The Pavilion Centre in Wadebridge. 190 representatives from the farming industry, including principal sponsor Stephens Scown, attended the awards which showcased the very best people from the county's diverse farming sector and the four-course dinner used delicious Cornish produce. The nominees were a particularly strong group which made it tough for the judges. We are delighted to confirm the winners:

- Best Dairy Farmer winner - Paul George of Nansmerrow Farm, Tresillian
- Best Farm Processor winners - Bill and Rachel Clarke of Trewithen Dairy, Lostwithiel
- Best Woman in Farming winner - Sally Lugg of Primrose Herd, Busveal, with a special acknowledgement to Anne Sweet who was awarded Cornwall's Inspirational Farmer
- Best Green Farmer winners - brothers Shaun and Oliver Hawkey of Penpont Farm, Chapel Amble
- Best Young Farmer winner - Richard Mann of Boscreege Farm, Gulval
- Best Commercial Farmer winner - Rundle Weldhen of Trekennen Farm, Trekennen
- Farming Champion winner - Martin Howlett of Deer Park Farm, Luckett
- ...And Cornwall's Farmer of the Year winner ...Paul George!

Anne Sweet who won the Inspirational Award said "I would like to thank the Addington Fund for a wonderfully memorable evening, especially to Georgi who helped me decide to go to the awards. We were made to feel so welcome and comfortable. I can't believe all the wonderful letters, texts, emails and phone calls I have received from people who have known me since I moved to Cornwall and not just within the farming community. The Addington Fund has given me more than an award, it has given me hope that our lives may get back to some normality. Just to go out and mix with other people again. We take so much for granted in life. It has given us all a positive feel within the farming community at such a bleak time. It was so good to hear what the charity does and now we know more about it we can spread the word".



How you can help us

- **DONATIONS** - can be made directly to us by sending your gift to our office in Barford. If you are a tax payer then including a gift aid declaration increases your gift by 25%.
- **TO DONATE BY TEXT** - please text AFTD01 followed by the £ symbol and the amount you would like to donate to 70070. For example: AFTD01 £5 ...thank you!
- **VIRGIN MONEY GIVING** - www.virginmoneygiving.com - search for Addington. This is a safe and secure method of donating on line.
- **RECYCLING INK JET CARTRIDGES** - www.recycle4charity.co.uk - ink jet cartridges with a donation coming to us.
- **INTERNET SEARCH ENGINES** - www.everyclick.com is an Internet search engine which raises money for charity. Please look us up and add Addington Fund as your chosen charity.
- **SHOPPING ONLINE** - Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from the perfect gift and novelty socks to your turkey and pantomime tickets - you could be raising a free donation for Addington Fund? There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline, and Sainsbury's - it doesn't cost you a penny extra! It's really simple, all you have to do is head to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/addingtonfund and sign up for free.
- **LEGACIES** - please contact us if you would like to consider leaving a legacy to the Fund.
- **STAMPS** - We can receive donations from stamps collected by our supporters. All stamps are welcome and ideally they should be on single paper (i.e. just the front of the envelope). They need to be trimmed to within about 1/4" of the perforations. Please no gold labels, meter marks, etc. - just stamps! There is no minimum or maximum amounts so anything you can save and send will support our work. Foreign coins/old GB coins and banknotes are also accepted. All you have to do is send your stamps to:
Stamps for Charity (066 AF), 10 Bellamy Avenue, Hartcliffe, Bristol BS13 0HW
...and quote the name Addington Fund 066AF. How simple is that?

Addington Fund greatly acknowledges the continued support of **The Prince's Countryside Fund.**



THE PRINCE'S COUNTRYSIDE FUND

IF YOU NO LONGER WISH TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER OR WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE IT BY EMAIL INSTEAD PLEASE EMAIL GEORGICURTIS@ADDINGTONFUND.ORG.UK OR CALL GEORGI ON 01926 620135, OPTION 3.

You will find us on both Twitter and Facebook. Follow us and keep up to date with what's going on – links are available on our website www.addingtonfund.org.uk or by searching 'Addington Fund' either on Facebook or Twitter.

NEWS

Addington Fund

a farming charity that means business • Spring • 2016

Fifteen years on

Farmers are always moaning. It's part of their DNA and after the wettest winter on record, we will soon want some rain! Being serious, current trading conditions are making it almost impossible for any farmer to make a profit from his farming. There is an old saying 'up horn, down corn'; in a period when the price received for livestock was on the rise, the price of cereals would be in decline and vice versa. Today practically every sector is having to cope with low returns; wheat is the same price as it was in 1980 and the pig and dairy sectors are under severe pressure.

Many farms have become more specialised. With price pressure, particularly from the supermarkets, the only way to maintain profitability has been to keep costs down and this has been achieved by scale. On the downside, this makes a business very vulnerable compared to the days of more traditional mixed farming.

Farmers are adaptable. Each year we organise the Cornwall Farm Business Awards to

acknowledge and celebrate the best of Cornish farming. Every farmer short-listed for this year's awards was not relying on growing food alone to provide a livelihood; energy production, tourist features, holiday accommodation, office lets, barn conversions are all in evidence. As much as you might hate to see a wind turbine, for many farms, it is the only way they are still in business. But, of course, diversification is not something that many tenant farmers can enjoy, depending on restrictions imposed upon them by their landlord.

Farmers are human. The financial strain is starting to tell and it is affecting people working

in the many industries that support farming too. In 15 years at Addington, I have never been so worried about the general wellbeing of our farming community. During a conversation with a Cumbrian farmer affected by the recent flooding, he told me that the future was worrying him more now than during the Foot and Mouth in 2001. I never thought I would ever hear anyone say that.

Please continue to support the Addington Fund. Your generosity enables us to continue to help very genuine farming families who find themselves in difficult circumstances through no fault of their own.



Ian Bell OBE
Chief Executive
Addington Fund

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

● **SUNDAY 24TH APRIL, 3.30PM**
Evensong service at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, **BURY ST. EDMUNDS**, followed by afternoon tea

● **SUNDAY 8TH MAY, 10.15AM**
Rogation service at St. Columba's United Reform Church, **YORK**

● **THURSDAY 2ND JUNE, 8.30-10.00AM**
Farming Help breakfast on the NFU Mutual stand at the **SUFFOLK SHOW**

● **FRIDAY 22ND JULY, 6.30-9.30PM**
Join us for a delightful evening cruise. Setting off from **BIDEFORD** along the stunning North Devon coast as far as Clovelly and back aboard the cruising passenger ferry MS Oldenburg. This is

a private charter which is kindly being organised by Mr Trevor Gasper to raise funds for the Addington Fund. Tickets cost £25 and can be purchased from Gasper's – email gaspers@btconnect.com or tel 01297 680218

● **SUNDAY 11TH NOVEMBER, 11.00AM**
Harvest service at St Mary's, **STONELEIGH**

● **SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER, FROM 7.30PM**
Save the date to attend a Gala Concert at **LAUNCESTON** Central Church. Enjoy an evening of music and song from five choirs including the Launceston Male Voice Choir, with over 100 choristers from East

Cornwall coming together for a one-off concert in aid of the Addington Fund. Tickets are £10 each and include entry into the prize draw. Please purchase by calling Georgi on 01926 620135 option 3 or email events@addingtonfund.org.uk

DETAILS OF ALL THE EVENTS AND SHOWS WE ARE INVOLVED WITH THIS YEAR CAN BE FOUND IN THE EVENTS SECTION OF OUR WEBSITE.

Society Cards

Thank you to everyone who purchased Christmas cards. Don't worry, we have plenty in stock to meet your needs this Christmas! Details will be added to our website in September.

Guernsey Gals!

The two raffles we held for our previous Guernsey heifers Annabelle and Claudia were very successful. The raffle to win Libbie last year has also raised a considerable amount totalling £4,290. Thank you so much to all those that purchased tickets. The lucky winner was Miss Fortescue from Dorset who has chosen to show Libbie with the experience and help of Guernsey breeder James Bartlet. We look forward to seeing Libbie's progress at the shows this summer. Thanks to Brian and Shelia Adams for all their support with the 3 heifers.

Sheep Show Contributions

Have you ever seen Richard Savory's Sheep Show? It is a fascinating show which tours around the UK. Richard is also a Norfolk farmer producing beef and venison. At various shows he collects donations for Addington; just one example of the support we receive.

Advent Services

For many years we have held a number of Advent services across the country. They have become increasingly popular and the phrase 'this starts my Christmas' is often heard. Our services are another opportunity for people to donate and we thank the many churches we use for their generosity too.

The Falcon at St. Mawgan



Sometimes it is the recommendation of an individual supporter that can lead to much greater things. Last autumn we were privileged to benefit from the Harvest auction at The Falcon in St. Mawgan, Cornwall, which raised £4,000 for Addington. Whatever the event, whatever the amount of money raised, it will make a difference to a farming family.

Flood Appeal with Countess Bathurst

Ian Bell was invited to the home and estate of Countess Bathurst to collect the donations raised by people of Gloucestershire to help the farming community, affected by the horrific storms Desmond and Frank in late 2015.

The appeal was set up by the Countess when she saw the media coverage of the floods and how it was damaging homes and businesses of those who lived in the affected areas. "The repeated floods had a terrible effect on the villages of those areas, ruining lives and leaving people homeless. I wanted to do something and I knew the Addington Fund, which I am a Vice-Patron of, had become

involved so I set up an appeal to raise money on their behalf," she said. "I started the appeal with a target of £10,000 so it is marvellous that so many have put their hand in their purse for the cause. It shows that in the UK we really do look after and care for each other. When disaster strikes we can unite and really make a difference," the Countess added.



Thank you for all your donations in support of our work responding to the floods in the North of England. We are working alongside other organisations in the Cumbria Farm Flood Action Group, however, we are aware of the needs of other areas in the North of England. The challenges are immense, coping with the immediate needs of livestock, especially sheep, to the massive task of removing thousands of tonnes of gravel and stone washed onto grazing land.

Finally, the trustees and staff of the Addington Fund would like to pass on the best wishes, encouragement and prayers of all involved with Addington and also the many donors who have expressed how worried they are about the effects that storm Desmond is having mentally, physically and financially on farmers from flooded areas. Please don't feel afraid to ask for help and even if we cannot assist, we will endeavour to suggest people who may be able to. Farming Help can be contacted 365 days a year from 7am-11pm on 03000 111 999.

Celebration of British Livestock event

Two Beef Shorthorn heifers escorted by the Light Cavalry from the Honourable Artillery Company and the City of London Police led a procession in December, to start the Celebration of British Livestock at Christmas event.

The prize-winning cattle from Charles Horrell's Podge Hole herd were 'blessed' in front of St Paul's Cathedral by the Revd Canon Michael Hampel,



Fundraising Activities

Precentor, before journeying down to St. Bride's Church for a carol service attended by more than 300 livestock producers, retailers and supporters of Addington.

British fayre dominated the lunch that followed at the Stationers Hall and preceded an auction of 14 lots which, with match-funding from Barclays, raised £12,090 for us. Ian Bell commented: "It has been a tremendous occasion for British livestock. We've had enormous support from farmers showcasing their animals and from industry donations towards the event. Our strong message reflecting the superb quality and integrity of British livestock has reached a wide audience through the event, as well as raising support for the Addington Fund. The celebration of a Christmas service at St. Bride's was the icing on the cake".

Farmhouse Breakfast Events

Over the last two months, we have held breakfast events across the country, linking into British Breakfast Week. From Northumberland to Cornwall we have enjoyed the generosity and hospitality of so many people. Our main partners Barclays; debbie&andrew's sausages; Colin Carters Eggs; Griggs Farmshop Restaurant; Provenance Inns; Nationwide Produce; Quality Milk Producers and Strutt & Parker have all been so supportive and our diners have been very generous too.

Our second year at the Ashcombe Club near Dawlish saw a larger number of people attending. Thank you to Sharon Gay, chef Ralph and all the team. Raising over £2,000, we will split this with the Ashcombe Club to support local charities in Ashcombe and the Dawlish area.



A record number dined at Griggs Farmshop Restaurant in Cornwall (above); a huge thank you to Michael Griggs, his family and staff for all the effort they put in to make this event a success, raising just over £3,000. All profits are split equally between Addington and R.A.B.I.

Our Warwickshire Breakfast is also a joint-fundraiser with R.A.B.I. with each charity benefiting by over £1,000. Over 100 people enjoyed a cooked breakfast at the Spinning Jenny Restaurant at Hatton Country World. Thank you to David Blower and the staff at the Hatton and to the staff from Barclays who helped.

Back in Cornwall, Sarah Lawrence, landlady of The Falcon Inn in St. Mawgan, again made her dining room available to host a more formal breakfast which allows us to engage with local businesses and farmers. Jo Wingfield from NatWest and Neil Chamberlain from Worldwide Financial Planning again gave their time and knowledge to

make this an important event in our calendar.

Off to the hills! We travelled north to new locations. Chris Blundell and Michael Ibbotson, Directors of Provenance Inns made The Carpenters Arms in Felixkirk available, which was supported by Barclays and Strutt & Parker. A wonderful venue and a fantastic breakfast; the 'Full English' diet is much easier to cope with in week two!!! All the income from this event will go into our North of England Flood Fund.

Similarly, funds raised from our Northumberland Breakfast at The Barn at Beal will also help our farmers affected by the awful flooding. Watching the sun come up over Bamburgh Castle and looking towards Holy Island is an amazing way to start the day, and of course, our host Rod Smith is the world record wheat grower. Money is still coming in from these two events and we will raise over £12,000, a record breaker for us. Thank you to the Partners of Strutt & Parker who used this opportunity to contribute £2,500 to our Flood Fund and to Barclays Community Fund for match funding some of our fund raising activities.

During breakfast week, our friends at Mole Valley Farmers held an event at their Head Office in South Molton with donations coming to Addington. They are great supporters and have already contributed to our North of England Flood Fund.

Our breakfast event at the Temple Bar Inn in Ewyas Harold, Herefordshire on Friday 11th March raised £1,641. Thank you to trustee Peter Jinman, his wife Gill and daughter Philly for hosting this event. These diets are hard work!

Milk Moustache Campaign ~ Supporting our South West Dairy Farmers

It may have dropped out of the headlines somewhat recently but the dairy industry, that plays such an important role in the South West economy remains a sector under great pressure.

Last year, the position was acute with farmers becoming increasingly desperate as wholesalers and supermarkets continued to cut the amount paid for their milk. So Stephens Scown decided to launch a campaign both to highlight the plight of farmers and to encourage consumers to buy locally produced dairy at a fair price.

Firstly, they conducted a survey amongst over 1,000 people in Devon and Cornwall to gather public opinion.

The results were encouraging: 85% of respondents said they were prepared to pay more for local dairy products if that helped secure the long-term future of milk production in the region. Over four-fifths of people understood that farmers were not being paid enough for the milk they produce, and almost half were willing to pay at least 20% more for the dairy they purchase.

They then launched a website – www.supportswdairyfarmers.co.uk – to showcase the findings and encourage people to sign up to demonstrate their support. The response was

Continued overleaf...

Housing Work:

Our Strategic Rural Housing Scheme (SRHS) specialises in purchasing or building homes for tenant farmers who are retiring from their farm, but do not have the means to purchase their own retirement home. In certain counties (Cornwall, Worcestershire and Ceredigion) through our Affordable Rural Housing Scheme we are also able to accommodate farm and rural workers who are looking to rent, but are unable to afford rents due to the low income associated with the industry they work in.

We are in the process of purchasing our 60th property for a farming family since the SRHS started.

Our portfolio is a rolling one – as and when each property is no longer required, it is sold and the proceeds come back to the Fund in readiness for when another farming family comes to us for help.

To date, we have provided homes for 70 families, some who have retired from farming, some who are younger, and need an affordable rural property to live in. When our current

EMERGENCY GRANT PAYMENTS:

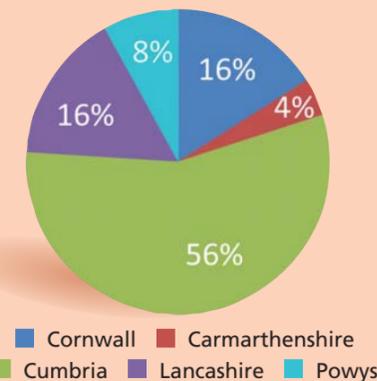
There appears to be no such thing as a "normal" farming year and 2015 ended with Hurricane Desmond ravaging many farms in the North of England.

Our wonderful supporters responded in their usual generous way which has enabled our North of England Flood Fund to give grants to farmers whose farms had been hit badly by the storms.



Add this to our everyday emergency grant work since our last newsletter, where we have supported 25 farming families with grants totalling just under £30,000. 56% of our work was in Cumbria, but once again Wales represented a significant percentage (12%) of our grant work.

We anticipate that the damage caused by the storms will become more evident during



purchase goes through, we will have 51 properties in our ownership.

Until recently our houses have been many miles from our office in Warwickshire but we are pleased to have had an interest in our housing work from two local farming families and it is with great pleasure that we are supporting farmers who have been actively farming in our home county.

Last year we purchased a small bungalow for a fantastic widow who is in her 70's and this is what she told us...

"I don't know whether you can imagine the relief it is to know that I actually have somewhere to live when I leave my farm. I am really thrilled to have had the opportunity to actually choose a home for myself... and the location... never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be that lucky. I can't thank Addington enough for all the support they have given me, it has been wonderful."

We can only continue to offer hard working farming folk this option of housing with your continued support which is truly appreciated. Thank you.

the year and we will continue to offer support to affected farm businesses until the end of this year. Any surplus funds will be retained for our work in the counties in the north, as it was given for this region and will not be spent elsewhere.

Sadly weather-related problems are not the only reason farmers come to us for assistance, and over the winter, death, depression, attempted suicide and cancer have also been contributing factors for farmers needing our help.

Thank you for your incredible response to this aspect of our work.

PROPERTY NEWS:

We are pleased to announce that Ron Bullock Builders have commenced development of our two new cottages in Ruthvoes, St Columb in Cornwall. The two bedroom cottages are to be let in accordance with local authority criteria and conditions of affordability. The rents are proposed at £500 and £600 per month and the cottages will be ready for occupation in mid-October. Please email mikewilliams@addingtonfund.org.uk if you are interested in renting one of the cottages.



PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR FARMING COMMUNITIES.

Donations

ADDINGTON FUND FOR EVERY £1 YOU GIVE WE CAN RECLAIM AN ADDITIONAL 25P IN GIFT AID. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less income tax and/or capital gains tax in the current tax year than the gift aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Name
Address
Telephone
Email
Postcode.....