

# ADDINGTON NEWS

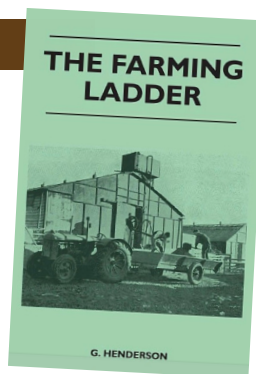
  
AddingtonFund

WINTER 2019

## Vital to re-establish the farming ladder

### CEO's COMMENT

I read George Henderson's great book *The Farming Ladder* at the age of 12. I was not a great reader at that age as I was more intent on getting onto the football, rugby or cricket field. However, this book changed my life. It chronicles the life of a farmer and his struggles through to World War II and onwards as farmers found ways to feed modern Britain. It led to me going to my local dairy farm and getting a part time job, then to Harper Adams and a life in the agricultural industry.



Of course, then there was a farming ladder and opportunities for new entrants to get into farming. Now however the traditional first step, the Council owned small holdings, are disappearing fast as they are often sold off by local councils who see a realisation of these assets as a means of funding their many other responsibilities. In recent times the Addington Fund has been promised three legacy farms and in return we have pledged to use these farms, with the help of strategic partners from banking, land agency and retail, to rent out at competitive rates to those new to farming.

Throughout my career I have always been impressed by farmers who go fresh into the industry or are forced to take on greater responsibility early in life and marvel at how often they tend to grow into leader innovator farmers. Our trustees think it vital that we try to put these first steps back and re-establish the farming ladder and so we are pleased to launch our Young Entrants' Scheme which has been warmly received by many in agriculture.

Time will tell how we and the new farmers get on. Indeed, it will not become reality until that legacy letter drops through our post box, but the scheme does sit nicely alongside our existing key areas of retirement homes for farmers, affordable rural homes for young agriculturists and, of course, our disaster relief work.

In that context we have been very busy as a charity. We now have a record 64 tenants (7 more than last year). In 2019 we undertook two big relief projects in Wales and Yorkshire courtesy of grants from the Welsh Government and the Prince's Countryside Fund along with some of our own restricted funds. All this means that we have temporarily had to halt applications for retirement homes as we rebuild our funds for the next round of purchases.

If you would like more information on the Addington Fund and what we do or would like to help please contact us on 01926 620135 or [enquiries@addingtonfund.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@addingtonfund.org.uk)

## A decade of uncertainty or rewarding times ahead?



### THOUGHTS FROM OUR CHAIRMAN PETER JINMAN

On New Year's Day I went for a walk in the glorious Herefordshire countryside accompanied by two local farmers, the village butcher and his family. Our route, along the ridge and down and across a swift flowing stream and then up out of one of the valleys below the Black Mountains, took us via one of the many ruined Norman motte and bailey castles that mark the attempts to keep the Welsh raiders at bay. Standing on the ramparts and looking out over the surrounding valley and hill and mountainside fields I was struck again by the number of small grass fields that make up so many of the farms around here. Those grass fields are the home for sheep and some beef cattle but rarely have the depth of soil for placing any arable crops in the soil. A few days later when talking to a retired farmer who spent his life farming one of the farms that made up part of the vista I had been viewing, he made the telling comment that given five years of doing nothing the whole of the valley would be scrub and brash. Nature soon takes over. A few days later, listening to the Secretary of State at the Oxford Farming Conference talking about the new Agriculture Bill and public money for public good, I was tempted to wonder what is going to happen to all those green fields and their hedges, and indeed all the farms, farmers, farm workers and all who work the land to keep it fit for raising livestock and who form the backbone of the rural communities.

It makes me realise what an important role the Addington Fund may have to play as we enter a decade of uncertainty. Helping to keep the rural economy sustainable and helping farmers, whether retiring or just starting out, through the transition we are facing over the next few years could lead to rewarding times.

Peter Jinman

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AddingtonFund

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# NEWS

## New Fundraising Office opens in the South West

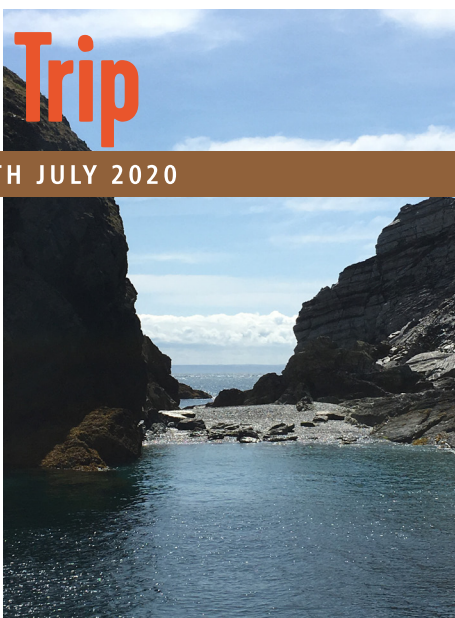
We are delighted to announce that the Addington Fund has opened a fundraising office in the South West. It will be staffed and operated by Addington supporter and volunteer Trevor Gasper, who takes on the role of South West Area Coordinator. Trevor will operate from his own office at Seaton in Devon and can be contacted by phone on 01297 680218 or by e mail [trevorgasper@addingtonfund.org.uk](mailto:trevorgasper@addingtonfund.org.uk) In addition to coordinating our fundraising activities at the Devon Show, local church services, YFC events and breakfast meetings, he will continue to run our annual fundraising day to Lundy Island.

## Lundy Island Trip

WEDNESDAY 8TH JULY 2020

MS Oldenburg will sail from Bideford at 8.00am. It will be an exclusive hiring with a capacity of 267 passengers. The Island is effectively a 1000-acre farm and during the day you will have the opportunity to explore not only the farm, but also the lighthouse, church, shop and pub, all the while enjoying spectacular views.

Tickets are £40 each with ample parking at Bideford quay. To encourage other agricultural societies to join us for the day, if you book 10 or more tickets, we will give £10 per ticket to your chosen charity. To book your tickets please contact Trevor Gasper as above.



## Somerset Centre of Management in Agriculture

CEO Bill Young attended the Somerset CMA annual dinner where over £350 was raised for Addington at their raffle on the night. Our thanks go to everyone who generously supported the evening. Bill judged the over 500 acres category, which was won by Chris & Helen Ford from Fiddington.



## NEWSSHORTS

### Advent Carol Service

Our annual Warwickshire Advent Service was held at St Peter's Grandborough, near Rugby and was attended by our Vice Patron the Bishop of Warwick together with the Deputy Lieutenant and High Sheriff of Warwickshire. Once again it was a lovely start to the Christmas season. Our local supporters gave generously and donated over £4000 to support our work. We are grateful to the churchwarden, Peter Johnson, and the priest in charge of St Peter's, Rev'd Anne Hinks, for kindly allowing us use of their church and of course to Rev'd Canon Barbara Clutton for helping to organise and lead the service.



### Wadebridge Young Farmers £1,500 cheque

Events Manager Annie Winn and past trustee Chris Peachey collected a cheque for £1500 from Wadebridge YFC. We thank them for their generous support - what a fantastic bunch of people who have a real passion for agriculture and a true attitude to help others.



### Skipton Market Christmas Fair

On Sunday December 1st, trustees Martin Redfeare and Christine Ryder represented the Addington Fund when Skipton Market raised over £2000. Our thanks go to Jeremy Eaton, Ted Ogden and all the team at Craven Cattle Market for organising the day, with a special mention to young auctioneer Kyle for running such a great cake and produce auction.



# HRH The Prince of Wales's visit to Derbyshire

In the early morning of 8th of November last year the River Derwent unexpectedly burst its banks near to its confluence with the River Wye at Rowsley, south of Bakewell in Derbyshire. Unusually the sudden volume of water meant that the water was displaced from the Derwent onto the previously unflooded northern left bank where local farmers had always believed their stock to be safe. In all over 50 sheep from 3 different farms were washed away to their death, with significant quantities of bagged silage also being lost on a further three farms. Fencing and handling equipment was also damaged beyond repair. Luckily the Addington Fund, with the help of The Prince's Countryside Fund, was able to step in and, together with fellow Farming Help charity Forage Aid, were able to remove and replace deadstock, replenish silage stocks and repair fencing and handling pens.

Just before Christmas His Royal Highness visited the area to hear first-hand the effects of the floods. It is clear from our discussions that Prince Charles cares deeply about the countryside. He is very interested to hear when things go wrong and even keener to help resolve issues and keep the countryside viable and sustainable.

Pictured at Peter and Deborah Bettney's farm: from L - R: Bill Young CEO Addington Fund; Stuart Fairfax from Ashford Farms; Andrew Ward founder of Forage Aid; Lord Edward Manners of Haddon Hall, the landlord of some of the affected farms; HRH The Prince of Wales, with Claire Saunders and Diane Spark from The Prince's Countryside Fund to his left.



Image courtesy of photographer Andrew Eyley (AE Media)

*"It is clear from our discussions that HRH cares deeply about the countryside."*

## Sale of Quethiock Parish in 1919

The community of the Quethiock Parish, a small rural parish in South East Cornwall, commemorated the 100-year anniversary of the 'sale' of their Parish with some unusual fund-raising events in aid of Addington. The main event was a remembrance lunch at the Parish Hall in August which was attended by 70 people. Other events included walking the 17 miles of the Parish Boundary; quiz and bingo evenings; a scarecrow competition and various talks and exhibitions of life around 1919. Over £700 was raised for the work of Addington.

Steering committee member, Alison Jeffrey, told us that they were glad to raise money for Addington as it reflected the hardship for the farmers and farmworkers in the parish back in 1919, some of whom lost their tenant holdings after many generations. Some, thankfully, were lucky to find new farms and the workers taken on again by new landlords.



**Bert & Gill Kent cutting the ribbon on the commemorative bench**

## Devon County Show 2020

**DON'T MISS IT!**  
21st - 23rd  
May 2020

The Addington Fund is very proud to be chosen as the Devon County Show Charity for 2020. The show takes place on 21st-23rd May 2020.

If you would like to help with our fundraising activities, please contact Annie Winn in our office 01926 620135 [anniewinn@addingtonfund.org.uk](mailto:anniewinn@addingtonfund.org.uk) or Trevor Gasper [trevorglasper@addingtonfund.org.uk](mailto:trevorglasper@addingtonfund.org.uk).

We are very grateful to the Show committee for giving us this opportunity to raise both funds and awareness of our work.



### Devon Bunting Challenge world record

The Devon County Show organisers are planning a challenge for this year's show - to beat the Guinness World Record for the world's longest knitted bunting and to raise funds for the Addington Fund.

To achieve the record, 32,000 knitted bunting triangles are required. What we need to make it all happen is as many knitters as possible! Could you help? If so full instructions, including patterns and a step-by-step beginner's guide video are available to view now at [www.devoncountyshow.co.uk/bunting](http://www.devoncountyshow.co.uk/bunting) The bunting will be sold off by the metre at various auctions and raffles after the Show and all proceeds will go to the Addington Fund.

Your completed masterpieces can be sent direct to Devon County Show, Westpoint, Clyst St. Mary, Exeter EX5 1DJ. Please mark your entry Devon Bunting Challenge. Closing date 30 April 2020

## Royal Cornwall Show

4th - 7th JUNE 2020

This year we are delighted to say we will be based on the Mole Valley Farmers stand at the show. Our thanks go to Chairman Graeme Cock and CEO Andrew Jackson and their team for both hosting and supporting us.

We will also be holding a fundraising event at the CLA stand on the Friday night. We very much appreciate the help of new Director Anne Maidment and Will Langer who have made this possible.



Welsh Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural affairs Lesley Griffiths at Head of the table with Bill Young immediately to her right and FCN's Vicki Beers bottom right who has made a big contribution the Farmwell project.

## CEO, Bill Young, meets Welsh Government Minister

Addington CEO met with the Minister Lesley Griffiths in January. The Addington Fund has been involved with a project to help Welsh Farmers through difficulties following the drought of 2018 and the wet second half of 2019. In all Addington have distributed over £150k worth of compound feed and hay through merchants ForFarmers and Abbott and Co mainly to the upland areas of mid North Wales.

The main purpose of the meeting was to launch the FCN Farmwell project as a prelude to the main Welsh launch which will be on 31st March at the Royal Welsh Showground.

Farmwell is the new FCN website which helps farmers adapt to change with a big focus on mental health

[www.farmwell.org.uk](http://www.farmwell.org.uk)

## See you there...

We would love to see you at any of the following shows and events.

### DAIRY TECH

Wednesday 5th February  
Stoneleigh Park

### CORNWALL FARM BUSINESS AWARDS

Wednesday 11th March,  
Royal Cornwall Pavilion  
(Royal Cornwall Showground)

### ASHCOMBE BREAKFAST

Monday 23rd March,  
Ashcombe Village Hall  
(Devon)

### CLA WELLBEING SEMINAR

Tuesday 24th March,  
Lifton

### DEVON FARM BUSINESS AWARDS

Wednesday 20th May,  
Devon County Showground.

### DEVON COUNTY SHOW

Thursday 21st – Saturday 23rd May,  
Devon County Showground.

### WARWICKSHIRE BREAKFAST & HEREFORDSHIRE BREAKFAST

Dates TBC

## FARM BUSINESS AWARDS

### Cornwall Farm Business Awards

The Cornwall Farm Business Awards will be held a little earlier this year, on Wednesday 11th March at the Royal Cornwall Pavilion Centre. Nominations have been flooding in since November, so there is plenty to sort through in the next stage of the process: the judging!

Who will be crowned Cornwall's Farmer of the Year 2020? Good luck to all our short listers!

### Devon Farm Business Awards

The Devon Farm Business Awards will be held at the Devon County Showground on Wednesday 20th May. The nominations are now live - please head to our website to nominate either yourself or someone you know in one, or more, of our farming categories.

What are you waiting for? Nomination closing date is Friday 6th March 2020.

### Three Counties Farming Awards

Addington is once again the nominated charity for the Three Counties Farming Awards on 11th June at the Three Counties Showground, Malvern Wells. Nominations are now open.

To nominate, please visit

[www.worcesternews.co.uk/awards/tcf/](http://www.worcesternews.co.uk/awards/tcf/)



### Cumbria Farm Business Awards

Our Farm Business Awards have now branched into new terrain in Cumbria. The Cumbria Farm Business Awards will be held at Castle Green Hotel, Kendal on Wednesday 9th September 2020, and will celebrate all things great about agriculture.

Nominations are now live so please feel free to visit the new website to enter either yourself, or someone you know for these fantastic awards [www.cumbriafarmbusinessawards.co.uk](http://www.cumbriafarmbusinessawards.co.uk)

# GRANT & HOUSING WORK



## Welsh Funding helps suffering farmers

Throughout 2019 the Addington Fund worked with the Welsh Government to help farmers suffering the aftermath of the summer drought in 2018. As a result, we have been able to help over 90 farmers mainly in mid North Wales

with shortages of feed and forage. We are very grateful to Lesley Griffiths AM, Minister for the Environment, and her team for enabling this to happen together with our partners in the scheme: ForFarmers and Abbott and Co.



## Generous donation aids relief for farmers affected by floods in Swaledale

Thanks to a generous donation from The Prince's Countryside Fund we have been able to help 25 farmers in a small but badly affected area around Reeth and Grinton. Stone walls were washed away, buildings damaged and riverbed boulders were deposited in large numbers on grazing land. Seeds have had to be re-drilled and sodden silage bales removed to an AD plant. Working with Andrew Ward at Forage Aid, we administered the fund while Forage Aid were able to secure two tractors from JCB and Bailey trailers to cart the affected silage to the plant.



Local FCN volunteers were able to direct us to the affected farms; Forage Aid, through generous farmer donations, were able to replace stocks while Addington picked up the labour bill. It just shows what can be achieved when charities work together.

## AddingtonFund

Since Addington came into being during the 2001 foot and mouth outbreak, we have:

- helped nearly 25,000 farming families with grant assistance in difficult times, or housing when they have had to leave their farm
- Paid out over £11.5m in grant aid
- Invested over £12m in property for people who have retired from farming, or younger rural folk who would otherwise struggle to live in the countryside
- Provided homes for 94 families. Some of these have subsequently bought us out, thus becoming homeowners in their own right, which is fantastic news for both parties.

We have had to temporarily pause our housing work, as our allocated funds for housing are currently fully committed, but we are working hard on changing this so we can continue to help even more people retire from farming with the comfort of knowing that they will have a secure and safe home to live in.

It is very rewarding for us to help tenanted farmers make the transition as they start on their journey into retirement. Our longest serving tenant moved into our first house in 2002 and will be 95 next year. Our youngest tenant in one of our affordable homes is a farm worker aged 23, so you can see that we help a wide cross section of ages.

## George Stephens Trust Fund welcomes applications

This charity was established in 1970 and is now administered by Addington. This Fund aims to help farm workers, resident in England, who are or were employed on a farm, their widows, widowers, children and dependants. Single grants are restricted to a maximum amount of £600 and applications must be made

through a third party - for example Farming Community Network, RABI, Social Services, the Royal British Legion or a GP. Grants can be used to purchase items such as white goods, telephones, lighting or furnishings for the home. We welcome applications from those who meet the criteria.

Please contact Sue English at the Addington office for more information 01926 620135

Your support is truly appreciated and none of this would have been possible without such support. Thank you again for the part you have played in helping us do this.

# The Addington Tractors receive some TLC

**JACK** is currently undergoing some TLC at the Ecocentre near Newark. The Ecocentre is run by Addington supporter David Rose and the resident group "Men in Sheds" are looking after Jack and preparing him for this year's shows.

**JILL** remains with her restorer near Stowmarket in Suffolk and will shortly be on her way to Devon where she will be based to ready for the shows in the South West including the Devon County Show.



## How can you help us?

Although our work covers England and Wales, being a small team of 4 means we find it challenging to attend every event we are invited to. We appreciate the encouragement and support of local groups, and if you would like to organise a fundraising event on our behalf, we would love to hear from you.

Please get in touch with Annie, our events manager on 01926 620135 (option 3) [anniewinn@addingtonfund.org.uk](mailto:anniewinn@addingtonfund.org.uk)

### Other fundraising ideas -

#### Easyfundraising and AmazonSmile

If you regularly shop online then this is a really easy way to generate a donation. The retailer you are buying from will give you a cash reward that automatically turns into a donation for your chosen charity. We are registered on Easyfundraising and AmazonSmile and when you shop through either, Addington will receive a donation at no cost to you and it can really mount up.

#### Celebrations and Milestones

On special occasions many people choose to ask guests to make donations to charity rather than give presents.

#### In Memory

Donations made in memory of a loved one can provide a lasting legacy to help future families. If you would like any literature to publicise our work, please contact the office for leaflets and gift aid envelopes.

#### Text Giving

We are now able to accept donations by text. Simply text ADD5 to 70085 to donate £5. A standard rate message charge will apply.

Raise funds for  
**ADDINGTON FUND**  
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Find us on easyfundraising to start:  
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SCREWFIX JUST EAT moonpig ASOS  
discover fashion online

easyfundraising (feel good shopping) £20 Million raised 1.2 Million users 100,000 causes

#### Recycling Inkjet Cartridges

Recycle your inkjet cartridges and mobile phones to raise money for Addington and protect the environment. It's so easy, you just need to select us as your charity and register online. You can order freepost bags to return your items or arrange for a box of items to be collected, free of charge! You can even monitor your account to see how much you've raised and each quarter an automatic payment will be made to Addington Fund. Please visit [www.recycle4charity.co.uk](http://www.recycle4charity.co.uk) for more information.

#### Postal Donations

If you would like to donate by post, please make your cheque out to Addington Fund and send to us at the address below.

## FINAL THOUGHTS...

### Christmas Cards

Once again, our Christmas cards proved to be a great hit and valuable fundraiser, but we are nearing the end of our existing stock, so we will be looking to do something different for Christmas 2020. These hopefully will include pictures of the Addington tractors Jack and Jill and the introduction of some all year round thank you cards. If you have any ideas or would like to help, please let us know.

### Organic Milk Suppliers Cooperative

We are grateful to the members of OMSCO, who, in lieu of sending Christmas cards donated £1,000 to support the Addington Fund. Thank you to everyone from OMSCO for this idea and for getting so generously behind it and raising such a generous amount of money.

### Frontier Agriculture Ltd

Frontier Agriculture Ltd are a shining example of a company within the agricultural industry supporting those from the industry who experience difficult times. Since 2017 they have regularly supported the work of the Fund and this year made donations of over £1300. Thank you to everyone from Frontier for this loyal support.

### Farmhouse Breakfasts

Addington has not been involved in the usual Farmhouse Breakfasts so far this year – but we will be hosting breakfast events at various locations over the next few months.

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

