

ADDINGTON NEWS


AddingtonFund

SUMMER 2020

www.addingtonfund.org.uk

A sobering experience for all of us at Addington

CEO's COMMENT

To say that 2020 has been a difficult year for all of us is somewhat of an understatement and our hearts go out to those of you who have lost relatives and friends as a result of coronavirus. We have done our best to support as many people as possible, but we know that it cannot compensate for the feeling of fear, bewilderment and hurt the pandemic has created.

Lockdown has been a sobering experience for all of us at Addington. It has also been a learning one. Working from home has gone incredibly well with online meeting programmes Zoom and Microsoft Teams coming to the fore and it has given us time to, not only examine the way we work but to look at some jobs we have been putting off.

The downside of the coronavirus financially to Addington has, of course, been the cancellation of all our spring and summer fundraising and awareness events. Potentially this could reduce our turnover by 25% but I am pleased to say that some of our donors and supporters such as the NFU Mutual Charitable Trust and The Hutchinson Charitable Trust have really stepped in to help fill the gap and we are truly grateful to them.

Similarly, the sale of a plot of land by the Cornish Mutual Assurance Company at face value, helped us considerably as we were able to get planning permission quickly, which we converted to cash which will be used to finance the building of another Addington home in Cornwall.

Without any Government help whatsoever through this crisis we have implemented cost saving methods



which have paid dividends. All of this means, with the wise counsel of Peter Jinman's chairmanship, we will come through this crisis more knowledgeable and well prepared, which bodes well for the future. Our targets remain the same but daunting, as we move towards our quest to supply 100 houses with at least one retirement home for farmers in each county of England and Wales.

"I am delighted to say that our umbrella organisation Farming Help has gone from strength to strength during lockdown."

I am delighted to say that our umbrella organisation Farming Help has gone from strength to strength during lockdown. The arrival of Jude McCann as the new CEO at Farming Community Network and the admission

of Forage Aid and its founder Andrew Ward to join us with Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution and Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution, has really focussed all us involved with the national farming charities network. We have been able to pull together and participate at the highest levels with regular group calls chaired superbly by Lord Curry of Kirkharle Kt CBE and the excellent Elizabeth

Buchanan CVO FRAGS. Our weekly calls to DEFRA and the Welsh Government have been interesting and it is great to hear politicians on all sides taking note and interest in our day to day challenges in a time of crisis.

The Prince's Countryside Fund has been the enabler with Farming Help and has coordinated activity, so it was with regret that I heard the former Director, Claire Saunders had stepped down at the end of July. Claire has always been a force for the greater good and will be much missed. Her successor Keith Halstead is already in place and I wish him well in his new position in these challenging times.

Rest assured we at the Addington Fund will continue to operate sustainably and keep our costs down so we can help more deserving rural families and agriculturalists with housing and disaster relief.

Bill Young

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Selling Livestock in Lockdown

Page 3



Record Breaking Bunting

Page 4


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Fantastic Support

The NFU Mutual donates £85,000 to the Addington Fund



NFU Mutual
Charitable Trust

The 18th – 24th May marked Mental Health Awareness Week and what a week it was. Over the seven days people displayed even more kindness and support towards others. It was a time where everyone united over something that once was a difficult subject to talk about and internal barriers were broken down.

There has been huge progress amongst the farming community, in relation to being able to talk about and facing mental health issues. Being part of this movement makes everyone who works at the Addington Fund and within the Farming Help sector very proud.

A survey showed that nearly three quarters of NFU Mutual customers are feeling more isolated since the UK went into lockdown and it is a crucial time for support to be available. However, the cancellation of fundraising events means that many charities are facing a funding gap, impacting their ability to provide vital services. To ensure support continues during the current health emergency, The NFU Mutual Charitable Trust made donations totalling £739,000 through Farming Help and across several national

organisations that reach out to the isolated and vulnerable across the UK.

The Addington Fund was one of the many charities to receive two donations totalling £85,000 from The NFU Mutual Charitable Trust and our heartfelt thanks go to their chairman Jim McLaren and CEO Lindsay Sinclair for their generosity at such an important time. In short it could not come at a better time and the sustainable nature of the Addington Fund means that we able to spend it all on those who need help.

The Farming Community Network, Forage Aid, Coronavirus Appeal, The Prince's Countryside Fund, The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, The Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution, Rural Support and the Samaritans were amongst the other charities who also received funds from The NFU Mutual Charitable Trust during lockdown.

The donations will support those experiencing stress or worry, help families facing financial challenges and encourage physical and mental wellbeing in our communities.

Thanks to Trevor Glasper - South West Office

Our thanks go to Trevor Glasper who continues to give the Addington Fund a strong presence in the South West and enthusiastically raises our profile in the area. If you would like to help Trevor, he can be contacted on Telephone: **01297 68021** or email: trevorglasper@addingtonfund.org.uk

NEWSHORTS



Sue English

The Addington Fund is delighted to announce that long standing employee Sue English has been promoted to the post of Deputy Director. Sue joined us in the dark days of foot and mouth disease and has been with the Fund for nearly 20 years.

Bill Young Addington CEO commented. "Sue is the fountain of knowledge on all things Addington and her promotion is thoroughly deserved recognition for the contribution she has made. She is also one of the hardest working and best organised people I have ever worked with. Put quite simply the Addington Fund would not be where it is today had it not been for Sue".



Enforced working from home has gone very well for Addington staff and it is clear we are all going to rethink the way we work in the future. The Fund is fortunate enough to own our office at Barford near Warwick, which in truth even in normal times is too big for us even allowing for our projected growth as a charity. With this in mind, we would be more than happy to rent to a likeminded partner either upstairs or downstairs, either of which can safely accommodate five office workers or more. If you are interested, please let us know.





How to sell Livestock during Lockdown

There was an initial flurry of calls at the start of lockdown, as some farmers were unsettled about new livestock selling methods. Many tenant farmers sell store cattle in March to pay their rent and were unsure how to market their stock. The situation was exacerbated by the wet winter and this year's spring drought. Sometimes, our job is just to guide our callers in a direction where they can reach their desired result on their own, and I think the following letter sums this up perfectly:

"I would like to inform you of the continuous hard work of the livestock markets during this time. We sold our store cattle through Welshpool market in the end on their drop and go system. Although it doesn't offer the same hub bub atmosphere of a normal market day it did serve our purpose well and I'm just letting you know in case anyone else finds themselves in the same situation as we did.

The system was fantastic with the market staff being absolutely brilliant. We were able to enter our stock by contacting the auctioneer directly, they book them in for the sale and send the needed paperwork which we completed with an option to place a reserve price for each animal/group of animals. You

then take your animals to the mart on sale day and the staff unload them while you wait in your vehicle. The mart staff then numbered them as requested and the sale was conducted using strict social distancing rules for prior booked in buyers. After the sale, if any of your animals didn't reach their reserve the mart would contact the seller by phone and give options of sell for the achieved price or you could return to the mart to collect your unsold animals which again the mart staff would load whilst you waited in your vehicle. Like I said it doesn't provide the normal enjoyable sale day atmosphere, but it does get the job done which is all any of us can ask in these strange times. If anyone asks, please feel free to use this information and we're more than happy for you to say we were very pleased with events and trade was as we would have expected so no skulduggery by anyone.

Once again, thank you for your previous help and guidance. Sometimes it's just nice to talk things through with someone outside of this business who can often better see the wood for the trees!"

Our thanks also go to Chris Dodds and the Livestock Auctioneers Association for their prompt reaction to lockdown.

Supporting Farmworkers through the George Stephens Trust Fund

The GSTF is the fund we run to support farmworkers. We are continuing to promote this grant giving fund among our stakeholders and network. If you come across a farm worker, resident in England, who is or was employed on a farm, their widows, widowers, children or dependents who are on a low income and need essential white goods, please let us know. Applications must be made through a third party - for example Farming Community Network, RABI, Social Services, the Royal British Legion or a GP.

Please contact Sue English on the Addington office for more information on 01926 620135 opt 2.

A truly cost effective charity

Addington has not had to furlough any staff during lockdown owing to the sustainable nature of operation and has not received any Government or local authority grant.

Addington's structure and proven operational model makes us an enviably lean, efficient and cost-effective charity. From every £1 we receive in donations, we are able to put at least 90p directly into our disaster relief, housing and other charitable objectives.

Goals and Remit

The Trustees of the Addington Fund have now agreed on 5 clear areas of operation to help keep the countryside viable and sustainable: -

- 1 Disaster Relief in the event of disease and inclement weather which puts farmers livelihoods and animal welfare at risk
- 2 Retirement Homes for qualifying farmers who need to leave the industry through no fault of their own
- 3 Affordable Houses on a limited basis to help keep younger members of the rural community in their chosen location
- 4 Farm Workers both working and retired are supported through the purchase of white goods if they meet the qualifying criteria
- 5 Young Entrants are supported where possible. These will include tenancies on legacy farms to get on the Farming Ladder and affordable houses to keep those involved and working in agriculture and its supporting industries


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We are committed to running the charity on a cost effective and sustainable basis, so we can put all monies raised or donated towards our cause to support more people in need from the rural community.



Record Breaking Bunting

We've smashed the Record for the World's Longest Knitted Bunting!

Congratulations to everyone who got involved in our "World's Longest Knitted Bunting Challenge", all in aid of the Addington Fund. The record has been broken, with a total of 80,000 flags knitted. That equates to 9 miles of bunting!

The bunting will be shown off at the Devon County Show 2021 in the Crafts Marquee, where there will be an Addington manned stand to purchase however many metres you like, with all the proceeds going to the Addington Fund.

Thank you once again for all your efforts and make sure you come and take a look next year at the Devon County Show, and do not forget we are the chosen charity of the show in 2021 too!

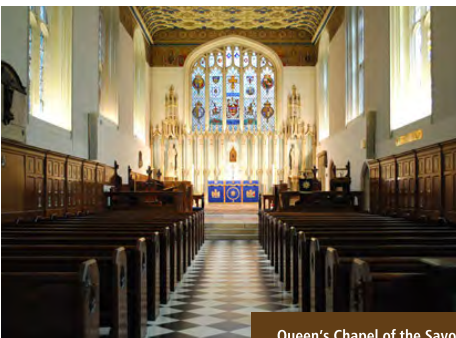
We look forward to seeing you there.



We can't wait to meet you again soon!



Advent service



Queen's Chapel of the Savoy

For now, this is what we have planned for the rest of the year moving in to 2021:

ADVENT SERVICE

Tuesday 8th December 2020
at St Peters Church Grandborough,
Rugby Warwickshire CV23 8DH

We also hope to do a virtual carol services on our You Tube channel – watch out for the announcement.

DEVON FARM BUSINESS AWARDS

Wednesday 19th May 2021

CORNWALL FARM BUSINESS AWARDS

To be confirmed

CUMBRIA FARM BUSINESS AWARDS

Wednesday 8th September 2021

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EVENTS UPDATE

All fundraising events since March have been cancelled due to the coronavirus. The Cornwall and Devon Farm Business Awards had originally been postponed until later in the year, but we have now decided to roll forward these events into next year because of the uncertainty of the pandemic.

We are still uncertain as to what the future holds so please note that any future events will be reviewed closer to the time, following Government guidelines.

Next year is the Addington Fund's 20th anniversary, so fingers crossed Covid19 has eased by then and life is a little more normal for us to be able to organise something special!



Cornwall FBA Left Alan Goddard Right James Kittow.



Devon FBA Left to right Matt Cotton, Rob Cotton, Graeme Cock

GRANT & HOUSING WORK



National Lottery Grant

Addington has just won a National Lottery Grant of £10k, to help our tenants experiencing financial difficulty due to the effects of Covid. Our Trustees are also intending to use some of the money to help seasonal farm packhouse workers who are unable to work as a result of a positive coronavirus test. The help will come in the form of vouchers for essential household items to cover the time while they are unable to earn.



Housing Matters

Retirement Homes and Affordable Housing

We are hopeful that we will be able to re-open our housing programme soon as we have a waiting list of tenant farmers looking to retire from farming and by giving up their tenancy will lose their homes. Since our last newsletter we have had movement in tenants and as and when our houses are no longer required, they are sold, and the funds recirculated to help others. We are looking forward to our continuing housing work once lockdown restrictions enable us to do so.

One of our youngest farmworker tenants has moved on, having been with us for 7 years from the age of 19. We thank him for his testimonial



It's been just over 7 years I've spent at Trevorva Barns, starting off at the age of 19 when I arrived! (Just a boy!)

It was after I phoned Sue English in January 2013, when I enquired about Trevorva Barns having heard about them through my local young farmers club Probus YFC and hearing from members and friends alike about how they help young people in my situation especially.

Having chosen to remain in Cornwall after my family moved away was a scary thought at first as living with friends felt after a while like I had overstayed my time, but I didn't know what options I had with quite a low income due to the low wages in agriculture and my age at the time. Then I was lucky enough to get a one bed single story property.

This for me now felt like my first step in becoming more independent and has been a great chance to save money to be able to get myself set up in my first home!

After 6 years, Addington had really helped me on my way, I was in a much better place, I then had the chance for me and my partner to move in together, into a 2 bedroom house in December 2018, this has been a perfect first home for us as a couple.

In a nutshell the Addington Fund has helped me no end, after my time at Trevorva it is a little daunting and a bit emotional to be leaving, but it was always in my mind that this is exactly what the Addington Fund wanted to do and has enabled me to do so, by allowing me to have a great start living Independently and helped me to save money for my future, whilst also living in a great place!

I don't know what I would of done if Addington hadn't been able to help me with my first home as there is no way I could ever of rented on the open market or even thought about getting on the property ladder.

I really think there is a great need for this type of accommodation in agriculture as I know many people that are in similar difficult situations to mine, who really can't afford to move out of home and maybe never will.



New Projects ANNOUNCED SOON

The statistic that sprang out last year was, for the first time in many years, the average age of farmers rose from 57 to 59. Addington is committed to bringing the next generation into agriculture and also making retirement for farmers who want to retire, a reality. We are looking at and working on a number of exciting projects to create more retirement homes for farmers, particularly in Yorkshire, Kent, Herefordshire, Suffolk, Essex, Devon and Cornwall where we have offers to support us financially on much needed retirement homes for farmers. Indeed, our aim is to build retirement cul-de-sacs or almshouse type houses for agriculturists who want to retire but cannot afford to, or for those who have to leave their farms through no fault of their own. We hope to announce our first project very soon.

Demand for housing on the rise

Last year, for the first time, demand exceeded supply for our retirement homes. We purchased 4 new homes and a building plot, taking us to a record of 63 properties.

We look at every angle to expand and the Addington Fund is open to any offers from our supporters to help us. These include legacy houses, completed new builds, leased houses, gifts of potential building plots and new houses at build cost. If you can help, please contact us.

We now have a waiting list for our Retirement Homes. We are doing everything we can to try and finance these to reduce this waiting list although demand is sure to rise.

Our new website launches soon

We are excited to announce that we have started to create a new Addington website. The current website is still accessible and available to use but it will have a new look and feel in the very near future.

Come and take a look

www.addingtonfund.org.uk



NFU Mutual
Charitable Trust

Thank you to the NFU Mutual for sponsoring the revamp.

Thank you for supporting 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

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.

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 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.



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FINAL THOUGHTS... 20th Anniversary Auction and Raffle Prizes

2021 sees the Addington Fund 20th anniversary and we hope to hold a few landmark events to mark the achievement. As highlighted, we will use these opportunities to fundraise to make up for this year. If you would like to help, please let us know. We are particularly looking for auction prizes and raffle prizes to use at next year's awards dinners or even virtually. If you can help please contact Annie Winn on anniewinn@addingtonfund.org.uk or 07395798141.

National Directory

The Princes Countryside Fund have created a National Directory of Farm and Rural Support Groups. The list not only contains the Five National Farming Help Charities (Addington Fund, FCN, Forage Aid, RABI and RSABI) but also the many specialist and local regional charities. Visit www.princescountrysidefund.org.uk to see the full list.

Virtual Events

Keep an eye out for some virtual events on our social media in the near future. If you don't have social media and you would like to receive these virtual events via email, please let us know via events@addingtonfund.org.uk and we will add you to our mailing list.

Christmas Cards

The early bird catches the worm. Our Christmas cards go on sale in September. Please contact us for a brochure.

For the latest
Addington Fund
news and updates
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Registered charity number 1097092

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