



NADAS

NEWSLETTER
February 2022

NADAS - Registered Charity (1003898) aiming to promote and enhance agriculture, horticulture, forestry, rural crafts and skills and to the benefit of the countryside and the general public.

In December we sent out our newsletter talking about what the Board had achieved in the short time they had been in office and promising to keep you updated with any progress.

We have again negotiated with the NHS regarding the 'Covid Centre' they are to remain until the end of March, when their position will then be re-considered.

We have met up with many of the section heads and discussed everyone's thoughts regarding a future show. We will be building up the requisite framework for an agricultural showcase in September 2023. As many of you will appreciate we have to firstly rebuild the society's financial position and work through in a methodical manner with the aim of future proofing NADAS activities.

However we will be running this years ploughing match at the Showground on Saturday September 17th 2022. There will be lots of attractions and entertainment - we aim to make it a fun day out for all the family to enjoy!

The board have made a thorough assessment of the showground, buildings, roadways, fences, compounds and land. Where facilities and areas have either not been maintained or under-utilised over the last few years our aim is to re-engage and bring our facilities up to a standard that could benefit lettings and revenue.

We are currently putting together a Showground maintenance committee and have asked for responses from any able volunteers with a couple of hours to spare each month. pam@nadas.co.uk

Members of the Board have met residents of Chieveley and Hermitage to discuss the 106 agreement that affects the showground and our ability to effectively raise letting income for the society.

We are aiming to apply for amendments to the agreement that we hope will benefit both the society and local communities.

Newbury & District Agricultural Society

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The Society Building (Cattle building) work has been underway to keep the weather out and any noise in. With the hard work of volunteers led by our Chairman the building has now been made 'bird proof' and the timber work completed to cut drafts and make it more 'multi-functional' for rental. A big thank you to www.ljcannings.co.uk for supplying the Cherry Picker.

In 2019, the toilet blocks were effectively de-commissioned. After having made thorough inspections, we believe that with the help of the Showground committee and relatively modest expenditure we will soon be able to offer these facilities again. The aim is to have the 'Building Society building' toilets fully functional by Spring.



As West Berkshire schools open up following 2 years of lockdowns, schools are embracing the Society's Agricultural Education Programme.

Jan Murray, our Education Officer, has already visited 16 Primary and Special Schools in 2022 and held Breakfast Workshops to promote a healthy breakfast. 450 students have enjoyed a NADAS healthy breakfast of porridge and fruit, along with a talk and help from 'Buttercup' the NADAS cow. The Primary School students also planted Oat, Barley and Wheat seeds, to grow on. The workshops have been extremely well received, with engaged, enthusiastic children and staff alike.

Judith Marcham is working on compiling a calendar of Membership events that will be available to attend - making these events unique and informative.

If anyone would like to make suggestions of any venues that could host a 'behind the scenes' tour, or agricultural talk, they would be most welcome.

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Jan continues to offer 'The Potato Challenge', - which is held at the Showground in the Spring and the Agricultural Challenge for Special Education. We are hopeful that the 2022 Design, Make and Market Challenge for mainstream secondary schools will take place in person & not need to be held remotely.

We are sad to announce that Amber is leaving us for pastures new, we would like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her every success in the future. Hopefully, as Amber is now going to be working freelance, she may well be back to help us from time to time.

If you would like to make a charitable donation to NADAS please contact: [Susan Layton Accounts@nadas.co.uk](mailto:SusanLaytonAccounts@nadas.co.uk) 01635 247111
All donations go towards fulfilling NADAS charitable aims

We have been approached by several members, some of which have impressive CV's, wishing to join the board as co-opted Trustees. We are currently working through skill sets and gaining a greater understanding of exactly what will be required moving forward. We hope to be in contact with the said persons soon. We are also seeking able volunteers for a number of events and committee coordinators so do please get in touch with any Board member. 01635 247111