



NADAS

NEWSLETTER
JUNE 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.

We can hardly believe how fast the last few months have flown by, that said your board and staff have been busy continuing to work for a more secure future for the society.

Showground Events:

Since our last newsletter there has been a multitude of events at the showground such as the Team Kennet cross country athletics meeting, John Day Engineering's 'Case' show, Farol's 'John Deere' show, The Land Rover 4 x 4 Show, All about Dogs, Newbury Flower Show, Southern Motorhome and Caravan Show and the Berkshire Young Farmers Country Fayre, including the Wurzels.

The Showground:

The Society Building, since its re-cladding, has been a successful upgrade and our aim is to be able to rent the building out more often. The cattle Building's greatest asset is the ability to 'keep the weather out, road noise out and the sound in'. as proved by the popular Wurzels performance.

The Building Society toilet block is now recommissioned thanks mainly to generous volunteer help.

We are investigating how NADAS deal with waste water going forward, as we currently use septic and holding tanks, which is an expensive solution. We are investigating alternatives with Thames Water such as going into the mains, which run alongside the A34.

If you are interested in helping us with our ongoing improvements either as a volunteer and/or joining the Showground Committee please contact Ian Wilson ianwilson900@gmail.com or the Showground Office. All offers of help are very much appreciated and we will endeavour to get back to you.

Society shows profit for 2021

The annual financial statements cover the year to 31st Dec. 2021 and have just been approved by the auditors James Cowper Kreston. The Board is pleased to report a net surplus of £96,592 (2020 Deficit £194,403). This was in no small part due to the Covid testing rental. The balance sheet shows total net assets of £1,457,244. The large part of which is the land and buildings. Bank loans now stand at £317,908 (2020 £323,171) and cash at Bank stands at £219,514 (2020 £177,249). Forecasts for the current year to 31st Dec. 2022 show a small surplus, with lettings continuing to improve. The final accounts can be viewed on the NADAS website.

Since the beginning of this year we have continued to explore the rather punitive current 106 restrictions that the showground has had to work with.

We have subsequently had various fruitful meetings with local residents and parish councils and believe that the amendments we are seeking can work well for both the society and local communities. The formal application for the said amendments has now been submitted to the council.

CONTACT DETAILS

Office: 01635 247111

Newbury Showground
Priors Court. Hermitage
Berkshire. RG18 9QZ

WEBSITE

WWW.NEWBURYSHOWGROUND.CO.UK

Steve.ackrill@nadas.co.uk

David.barr@nadas.co.uk

Nick.wallis@nadas.co.uk

Judith.marcham@nadas.co.uk

Steve.coventry@nadas.co.uk

Pam Rodrigues - Showground
Rental. pam@nadas.co.uk

Susan Layton

Accounts@nadas.co.uk

Jan Murray

Education@nadas.co.uk

Whilst the financial status of the Society is improving, we felt 2022 was too soon for a main Showcase of Agriculture - but we are working on hosting a Show in 2023.

Membership Events

In April we had a fascinating tour of the Living Rainforest in Hampstead Norreys, part of the international Trust for Sustainable Living. This was kindly put on for us by their Director, Karl Hansen. It was well attended and provided a valuable glimpse into the natural world, whilst learning much more about the Trusts' work in promoting sustainability with education, particularly relevant as environmental concerns are such an important consideration.



If you have suggestions of venues that could host a 'behind the scenes' tour, or agricultural talk, they would be most welcome.

Judith.marcham@nadas.co.uk TEL: 01635 247111

If you would like to make a charitable donation to NADAS please contact: Susan Layton Accounts@nadas.co.uk 01635 247111.

Stanlake Park Wine Estate in Twyford was the chosen location for a members wine tasting and tour in May. This was an enjoyable and informative look at a well-established wine producer and a demonstration that we can produce some very drinkable wines, particularly the sparkling variety that can really give the Champagne region something to think about!

The next membership event: 29th June at 3.30pm, The Gourmet Goat Farm, East Farm, Winterbourne Monkton. £10 each including refreshments. This is a chance to get together and have a look into the workings of a leading goat and farming enterprise. Please contact Judith.marcham@nadas.co.uk

SAVE THE DATE



The ploughing match

On Saturday 17 September 2022 at Rookery Farm, Curridge, RG18 9EA by invitation of Dan Willis. There will be plenty to see with modern & vintage tractor ploughing, heavy horse and steam engines. There will be cookery competitions open to all and the days full competition schedule will be available on our website.

The ploughing match promises to be a great family day out with plenty to do for all ages!



SAVE THE DATE



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After two years of Covid restrictions the Society finally hosted, in person, the finals of both the 'Agricultural Challenge' for Special Education and the 'Design and Make and Market Challenge' for mainstream secondary schools & colleges. Mary Hare Primary School hosted the first event this year with five teams taking part. There was a lovely atmosphere in the room, and wonderful to see the students enthusiastically talking to the judges about what they had created, from scarecrows to dream catchers made using natural resources.

The overall winner was The Castle School, with Mary Hare Primary and Addington School sharing second place and Kennet School taking third. Tadley Court School were awarded Highly Commended.



The Design Challenge was hosted by Berkshire College of Agriculture. Seven teams submitted entries based around agriculture or horticulture.

After much deliberation, the judges awarded first place to Churchmead School for their design of a robotic combine harvester and professional presentation. Second place tied between Kennet School for their agricultural themed charms and a second Churchmead team, for their seed launcher. Third place was awarded to Dedworth Middle School for their automated animal feeder and the BCA team were awarded Highly Commended.



NADAS are supporting GreenFest on Saturday 10th Sept. in the 'Nature Zone'. We will be joining National Charities, regional estates, nature school and community initiatives in agriculture, horticulture, wildlife, forestry, chalk streams and land based projects.

There will also be tons of free family activities, eminent speakers and free sustainability advice all day

SAT 10TH SEPT. 10AM-5.30PM
HAMPSTEAD NORREYS RG18 OTD

GREENFEST

WWW.OURGREENFEST.CO.UK

SUSTAINABLE IDEAS FOR LIFE!
FREE FUN DAY!

FREE ACTIVITIES & ADVICE TRANSPORT NATURE WELLNESS ENERGY EV CARS TALKS LIFESTYLE IDEAS STALLS FOOD

