

Annual Report
For
The Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society
&
Isle of Wight County Show Ltd



For the period ended 30th September 2015

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It is my very great pleasure to report another successful year for the Society both in the areas of our raised profile and the continued active membership.

The weather was again very kind to us for the annual County Show and numbers of visitors increased despite there being several conflicting Island events.

The unique flavour of the countryside was enhanced by of the showing of local livestock. The entries for the Livestock Sections - cattle, sheep and pigs were all up on previous years with a very high standard of animals. The poultry exhibition was of its usual high standard and was extremely popular.

Another major addition this year was the Village Green which hosted a variety of rural activities and proved to be a very popular attraction.

The Show Committee should be congratulated on the hard work they put in to make the show the success that it was.

Our funds increased for the Rural Careers Fund but we didn't manage to attract any suitable scholarship candidates so the available funds for dispersing next year have now increased.

The Society is now trying to increase the use of its assets by encouraging more use of the Showground. The take up of the new soccer pitches on the Showground has been most encouraging and can only improve the profile of the Society.

Finally, I hope that you will be able to join us at the RIWAS AGM on Wednesday, 25th November at 6:30pm. This year the AGM will be held at Bluebells, Briddlesford Road, Wootton PO33 4RY.

Danny Fisher MBE DL

Year 2015

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Mr & Mrs J W Attrill
Mr & Mrs D Ballard
Mrs F D Brown
Mrs P Collins

Mrs R Edwards
Mrs S Moody
Mr & Mrs D R S Russell
Mr G S Sibbick

Mr J Reynolds
Mr A Taylor
Mrs R T U Taylor
Mr & Mrs P Warren

PRESIDENT: Maj Gen M S White CB CBE JP

CHAIRMAN: Mr J H (Danny) Fisher MBE DL

VICE-CHAIRMAN & HON TREASURER: Mr G Biss

HON SECRETARY: Mrs R Edwards

MEMBERS ELECTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Current Members:

J Attrill
J Ball
G Biss
R Brown
R Edwards

D Fisher
B Gibbs
J Griffin
D Groves
S Groves

J Heather
G Kennett
J Lockhart
P Margham
J Reynolds

D R S Russell
D J S Russell
M Seymour
B Walters

Co-opted Members 2014/15:

G Kennett

Members eligible for re-election:

2015

J Ball
D Fisher
J Heather
G Kennett
M Seymour
B Walters
D Groves
S Groves
D J S Russell

2016

J Attrill
G Biss
R Brown
B Gibbs
J Griffin
P Margham

2017

R Edwards
J Lockhart
J Reynolds
D R S Russell

The enclosed Nomination Form for election as an Officer of the Society or to serve on the Executive Committee must be returned to:

RIWAS, Northwood House, Ward Avenue, Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 8AZ

By Noon on 20th November 2015

NOMINATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AT THE AGM

**The Annual General Meeting will be held at
Bluebells, Briddlesford Road, Wootton, Isle of Wight
Wednesday, 25th November 2015 at 6.30 pm**

AGENDA

1. Apologies (Please advise the Society office if unable to attend)
2. Chairman's Welcome
3. To approve the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 4th December 2014
4. To receive the accounts for the year ending 30th September 2015
5. Election of Officers for the year 2015-16
 - Chairman
 - Vice-Chairman
 - Honorary Secretary
 - Honorary Treasurer
 - Executive Committee Members
6. To Appoint Auditors (Independent reporting Auditors)
7. Committee Reports
 - Royal Isle of Wight County Show
 - Rural Careers Fund
 - RIWAS Wight Marque
8. To confirm the date for the 2017 Royal Isle of Wight County Show (118th)
9. Any Other Business (To be received, at the RIWAS office, in writing by Friday, 20th November 2015. No questions will be taken from the floor on the evening.)
10. President's closing remarks and Life Membership Award 2015

By Order of the Executive Committee
Mrs Rosemary Edwards
Hon Secretary

Registered Charity Number: 249519

President: Maj Gen M S White CB CBE JP
Vice-Chairman: Mr G Biss

Chairman: Mr J H Fisher MBE, DL
Honorary Secretary: Mrs R Edwards

Northwood House, Ward Avenue, Cowes, I.W, PO31 8AZ. Tel: 0845 226 9098
Web: www.rivas.org.uk e-mail: rivas@naturalenterprise.co.uk

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 4th December 2014

Chequers Inn, Rookley - 7.00pm

Attendees: Mr G Biss, Mr D Fisher, Maj Gen M White, Mrs R Edwards, Mr J Heather, Mrs B Walters, Mr J Ball, Mrs S Clarke, Sir G Acland, Lady C Acland, Mr J Lockhart, Mr J Reynolds, Mr B Gibbs, Mrs S Moody, Ms V Cranwell, Mrs B Wilkins, Mr J Warne, Mrs P Collins, Mr DRS Russell, Mr DJS Russell, Mr P Margham, Mr J Attrill, Mrs C Underwood, Mr S Brown, Mrs J Brown, Mrs J Griffin, Mr I Eaton, Mrs N Eaton, Mr M Morris & Ms S Hilton (Minutes)

1. APOLOGIES

Ms A Carritt, Mrs G Kennett, Mr M Poland, Mr M Wilkins, Miss S Wilkins, Mrs K Hills, Mrs J Williams, Miss C Flux, Mr P Robinson, Mrs K Buckland, Mr W D Rance, Mr D Groves, Mrs S Groves, Miss E Ablitt, Mrs A Ball, Ms J Shipley, Miss A Read, Mrs C Ashworth, Mr D Biles, Mr B Cass, Mrs S Cass and Mrs F White.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AGM HELD ON 05.12.2013

Proposed by Mr I Eaton
Seconded by Mr J Ball

Unanimously approved.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman gave his report and congratulated the Show Committee for putting on a splendid show in June and expressed his hopes that 2015 proves equally successful. Congratulations were also given to the recipients of Scholarships and Bursaries in 2014.

4. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 2014

The Treasurer gave his report for 2013/14 and noted that the Society should continue to carefully invest for the future with the Rural Careers Fund. The financial position was sound and a stable platform to work from.

Consolidated cash position at year end was £30,854

Reserves ended the year at £49,748. The showground is currently valued at only £6,500.

Showground income this year was £5,972

Wightlink income £10,459

No questions were received and therefore the Annual Accounts were presented for approval.

Proposed by Mr DJS Russell
Seconded by Mrs N Eaton

Unanimously approved.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2014 – 2015

CHAIRMAN - Mr D Fisher
VICE-CHAIRMAN – Mr G Biss

ELECTION OF HONORARY SECRETARY - Mrs R Edwards

ELECTION OF HONORARY TREASURER - Mr G Biss

ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following members were re-elected to the Executive Committee:

Mrs R Edwards
Mr J Lockhart
Mr J Reynolds
Mr D R S Russell

The above Officers were elected en-bloc

Proposed by Mr J Ball
Seconded by Mrs B Wilkins

6. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS - Harrison Black to be asked to continue as Auditors

Proposed by Mrs B Wilkins
Seconded by Mrs B Walters

Unanimously approved

7. CONSTITUTION CHANGES

The following changes to the Constitution were proposed:

Section D – Definitions

D.1 Members – those persons who have paid the subscription (as set at the previous AGM) and agree to comply with the objects and constitution of the charity.

Section I – Executive Committee

I.1 The Executive Committee shall consist of not less than eight members nor more than twenty members being:

I.1.3 not less than four and not more than 16 members elected at the annual general meeting who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting

Removal of clause J5 (age restriction of 75 years)

All of the above proposed changes were carried.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Royal Isle of Wight County Show – Report & Presentation by Graham Biss – The show was a great success with gate numbers were up for the third consecutive show, increasing by over 30%, livestock entries included beef and dairy cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry and horses and lunch in the Members' Pavilion was oversubscribed. The pole climbing in the Woodland section was spectacular. Lord De Mauley, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, attended the show and launched the Society's Wight Marque initiative, promoting local food. Thanks were expressed to everyone who contributed to making the show such a success and plans are already taking shape for next year.

Rural Careers Fund - Report by Belinda Walters - During the last two years grants totalling over £10,000 have been awarded. In 2014 2 Scholarships were awarded to students studying Level 3 Extended Diploma in Land Based Technology and Agriculture with Crop Management. Five Bursaries were awarded to students studying Level 2 Agricultural Engineering, Level 2 Diploma in Work Based Agriculture, Apprenticeship Farming, Game Keeping & Wildlife Management and Level 1 Agriculture. More quality applicants to be encouraged and more sponsors for 2015.

RIWAS Wight Marque - Report by John Heather reported on the first year of Wight Marque. There is now a great range of Island food related businesses on board including producers, processors, retailer and wholesalers, cafes and restaurants - all promoting the excellence of truly local produce from the Isle of Wight and in particular the 350 verified Wight Marque products. The first behind the scenes event for members had recently been held at Three Gates Farm, Calbourne and had been well supported.

9. DATE OF 117TH SHOW

Sunday, 26th June 2016 was proposed as the date of the next show and this was unanimously approved.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was received.

11. LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD 2014

An award of Life Membership was presented to Patricia Collins for her service to the Society.

12. PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS

The President congratulated everyone involved for the progress made during the last 12 months and re-confirmed his full support for the Society, and emphasised how important the Rural Careers Fund was for young people on the Island and Wight Marque for local food producers. He also thanked everyone for their hard work towards a successful show once again this year.

RIWAS Membership 2016

Member /Joint Membership £28 / £50	Young Member (16-25 years) £15	Junior Member (6-15 years) £5	Corporate Member £150
<p>Entry to Royal Isle of Wight County Show and the Members Pavilion. Further tickets can be purchased at a 20% discount in advance of the show.</p> <p>Members forward car park ticket</p> <p>Unreserved seats on Members Lawn in front of Main Ring.</p> <p>Additional Members Pavilion badges may be purchased either in advance or from Show Secretary tent (Price £2.00)</p> <p>Discounted Members Lunch ticket</p> <p>Use of Members' Cloakroom for coats and/or bags</p> <p>Opportunity to reserve a table in the Members Pavilion for lunch or afternoon tea to include pre-advised guests</p> <p>Priority and reduced entry fees into Equine & Livestock classes</p> <p>Right to attend and vote at Society's AGM</p> <p>Receive the RIWAS Newsletter and other updates</p> <p>Priority booking to other Society events e.g. Harvest Supper, Winter Seminar, Annual Dinner</p> <p>Concessionary Wightlink ferry tickets and other membership discounts</p>	<p>Entry to RIWAS County Show and the Members Pavilion.</p> <p>Unreserved seats on Members Lawn in front of Main Ring</p> <p>Use of Members' Cloakroom for coats and/or bags</p> <p>Priority and reduced entry fees into Equine & Livestock classes</p> <p>Receive RIWAS Newsletter and other updates</p> <p>Priority booking to other Society events e.g. Young Handlers Course, Harvest Supper, Winter Seminar, Annual Dinner</p>	<p>Entry to RIWAS County Show and Members Pavilion.</p> <p>Unreserved seats on Members Lawn in front of Main Ring</p> <p>Use of Members' Cloakroom for coats and/or bags</p> <p>Priority and reduced entry fees into Equine classes</p> <p>Receive the RIWAS Newsletter and other updates</p> <p>Priority booking to other Society events e.g. Young Handlers Course, Harvest Supper, Winter Seminar, Annual Dinner</p>	<p>Entry to Royal Isle of Wight County Show for five people and entry to the Members Pavilion. Further tickets can be purchased at a 20% discount in advance of the show</p> <p>3 Members forward car park tickets</p> <p>Unreserved seats on Members Lawn in front of Main Ring</p> <p>Use of Members' Cloakroom for coats and/or bags</p> <p>Additional Members Pavilion badges may be purchased either in advance or from Show Secretary tent. (Price £2.00)</p> <p>Opportunity to reserve a table in the Pavilion for lunch or afternoon tea to include pre-advised guests</p> <p>Display of a corporate banner around the Main Ring at Royal Isle of Wight County Show</p> <p>Use of RIWAS Showground free of charge for one day per annum or to place an advert in the Royal Isle of Wight County Show programme</p> <p>Receive the RIWAS Newsletter and other updates</p> <p>Priority booking to other Society events e.g. Harvest Supper, Winter Seminar, Annual Dinner</p> <p>Concessionary Wightlink ferry tickets and other membership discounts</p>

Please Note – Life Members are entitled to the benefits of Membership