

Patron HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

**THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2011

**RABI to be farming partner for  
The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons  
celebrations in 2012**

The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI) is calling on its supporters to help light up the land on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012 as part of The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons. The farming charity, which marked its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year, is aiming to light 1,000 of the 2,012 beacons that will be lit across the UK, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and beyond.

Making the announcement at the CLA Game Fair today (Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July), RABI chairman Julian Sayers said: "We are privileged that the Pageantmaster for the event, Bruno Peek, has invited us to be part of the celebrations for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee next year. Her Majesty has honoured us with her patronage since her accession and we see this as a way of demonstrating our appreciation for the support that she has given our charity and the farming industry during her 60 year reign.

"Since Her Majesty succeeded her father as our patron in 1952, RABI has made grants in excess of £40 million to help some 60,000 people through retirement or disability, sickness or injury, and farming misfortune beyond their control. This wonderful occasion gives us the opportunity not just to celebrate a great event in our nation's history but also to draw attention to the increasingly important role which RABI plays in relieving hardship within the farming community."

Welcoming RABI's involvement, Bruno Peek OBE MVO OPR said: "I am delighted that the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution has become our Farming Partner for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons, especially as the charity undertook a similar role in The Queen's Golden Jubilee Beacons in 2002, using their 650 beacons and associated events to raise awareness and valuable funds for their worthy cause. The farming community is a very important part of our nation's heritage, so their involvement in The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons is most appropriate."

Landowners, farmers and members of the rural community are invited to join the national beacon network and be part of this unique, once in a lifetime celebration. Details of how to get involved are available from the RABI fundraising, marketing and communications department – phone 01865 724931; e-mail [hayley.paintin@rabi.org.uk](mailto:hayley.paintin@rabi.org.uk); or visit [www.rabi.org.uk](http://www.rabi.org.uk).

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**The royal agricultural charity providing financial support to the farming community past, present and future**

**President: HRH The Duke of Gloucester    Chairman: Julian Sayers FRICS FAAV FRAGS**

Notes for editors follow

**RABI to be farming partner for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons celebrations in 2012 continued ...**

### **Notes for editors**

**The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution** is the national charity for those involved in farming in England and Wales. Established in 1860, it assists all those in need in the farming community. While the main focus of RABI's work has always been the retired and disabled it also provides assistance to working farming families facing severe financial hardship as a result of a crisis such as illness, bereavement or events beyond anyone's control.

### **For further information:**

**RABI** - visit [www.rabi.org.uk](http://www.rabi.org.uk) or contact Nicholas Bond, RABI Press Officer on 01865 724931 (RABI office); 01789 721311 (home); 07748 927424 (mobile); [nick.bond@rabi.org.uk](mailto:nick.bond@rabi.org.uk)

**The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons** - Further information in relation to other partners etc, in The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons will be announced by Bruno Peek OBE MVO OPR, Pageantmaster, The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons, over the next few months. From 29<sup>th</sup> July Bruno Peek can be contacted on 07737 262 913 - 07500 518 334, or by email - [pageantmaster@mac.com](mailto:pageantmaster@mac.com)

**The CLA Game Fair** - visit [www.gamefair.co.uk](http://www.gamefair.co.uk). RABI is the chosen charity for the 2011 Game Fair.

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