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THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

PRESS RELEASE

Tuesday 11th October 2011

Farming charity appoints new South West regional officer

The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution has appointed Pam Wills as its new regional officer for the South West, co-ordinating RABI fundraising and awareness activities in Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire.

Pam, who grew up on an Exmoor farm, has spent most of her working life in Somerset. After seven years as shows manager at the Royal Bath & West Showground she had a spell with the Great Yorkshire Agricultural Society before returning south to be commercial manager for Wincanton Race Course, a post she filled for the past seven years.

A former Young Farmers' county chairman, Pam is well known in farming circles in the region and is currently field officer for the Wessex group of YFCs. Commenting on her appointment Pam said: "I am delighted to be back working in the farming community for such a worthwhile cause.

"Having helped deliver Christmas hampers with the YFC to RABI beneficiaries, I am very aware of the important role that RABI plays in supporting those in need. I see the varied role and wide range of activities with which I will be involved as an exciting challenge."

Pam succeeds Suzie Paton who, having developed and established the post over the past couple of years, is taking on the job of RABI regional welfare officer for South Central England following the retirement of Peter Addington.

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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.

Pam Wills, who lives near Shepton Mallet, can be contacted 07825 336224

For further information:

visit 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

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

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