

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

PRESSRELEASE

Wednesday 7th October 2009

Giving it some welly

David Cameron, Pam Ayres and Robert Hardy are among celebrities who have endorsed a week of wild and wacky welly fundraising starting on Saturday. Young farmers, college students, school children and Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI) supporters of all ages across the county will be taking part in Welly Week, from 10th to 17th October, to raise awareness and funds for those in need in the farming community.

As well as welly wanging and decorated welly competitions, wearing wellies to school and to work, welly discos and welly tractor pulls there are many unusual events. Children at the Flagg Nursery School in Derbyshire have grown carrots in wellies and will be making them into soup for their parents. To launch this year's activities RABI regional officer for the East Midlands, Milly Wastie, undertook a sky dive in her wellies and a number of celebrities (including Pam Ayres, Kellie Bright of the Archers, former Catatonia lead singer Cerys Matthews, Robert Hardy and David Cameron's children) created designs for wellies.

RABI spends around £200,000 annually to purchase equipment such as stairlifts, riser/recliner chairs, household equipment and electrically powered vehicles, as well as paying for home adaptations, to assist people with disabilities. Funds raised during Welly Week will be used for the purchase of such special items to give people in need a better quality of life.

To find out about RABI and Welly Week activities in your part of the country, visit www.rabi.org.uk

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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 by farmers 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 about RABI Welly Week contact Melanie Moughton on 01865 724931 or visit www.rabi.org.uk

For specific information about Welly Week activities in your area talk to the local RABI regional officer:-

North East - Sally Conner: phone: 01964 541400; email: sally.conner@rabi.org.uk

North West - Georgina Lamb: phone: 07917 224250; email: georgina.lamb@rabi.org.uk

West Midlands - Kate Roberts: phone: 01630 628997; email: kate.Roberts@rabi.org.uk

East Midlands - Milly Wastie: phone: 01604 706681; email: milly.wastie@rabi.org.uk

East - Bob Archibald: phone: 01366 385388; email: bob.archibald@rabi.org.uk

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

President: The Lord Plumb DL, Chairman: HAC Densham CBE

South East - Sally Field: phone: 01903 882741; email: sally.field@rabi.org.uk
South West- Nick Toms: phone: 01752 893502; email: nick.toms@rabi.org.uk
Wales - Erys Hughes: phone: 01686 650937; email: erys.hughes@rabi.org.uk

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