



Nottinghamshire Rural Support

Helping farming families in Notts

<http://www.nottsruralsupport.org.uk>
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This is the third annual report of the charity and it is a privilege and pleasure to present it.

ACTIVITIES

Paula Winfield's role as Development Officer, originally a part-time paid post, has become a voluntary position because of her other commitments. Paula has been able to spread our message and to establish a wider base of contacts. An important development has been to form links with Young Farmers Clubs and to arrange talks to individual groups in order to engage the younger generation in the charity.

The free health check which NRS and Lincolnshire Rural Support Network offer to those attending Newark Livestock Market is a vital part of our work. In return for its funding, the NHS receives extraordinary value, since a consultation with our SRN is currently costed at £29.67 compared with £67 for a GP and £46 for a district nurse. This funding is no longer secure after March 2017 and we shall be launching a specific appeal to ensure that we can continue this highly valued service. The individual "pod" within the Market, which allows the Nurse to assess patients in complete privacy, has proved to be invaluable and for that we must thank Doug and Rachel Gascoigne. Lesley Sharpe and Paula are now to be found at the Livestock Market on alternate Saturdays to make a different audience aware of what we do and our Chaplain, Liz Murray, is frequently to be found at the Market talking to farmers over a cup of coffee.

Two committees now administer the charity under the guidance of the trustees, with the Steering Group having general responsibility and the Marketing Group, with John Starkey as Chairman, concerned with the development, events and presentation of NRS.

EVENTS

In November 2015 we held our Annual General Meeting at the Kelham House Hotel with Henry Blofeld as our very popular speaker. Much hard work by many committee members ensured a notable success, both financially and as an enjoyable event. We were most grateful for the gift of some valuable raffle prizes and for other generous contributions.

A carol service was held in December at St Andrew's church, Langar, by invitation of the Vicar, The Rev. Bronwen Gamble, and we were delighted that the Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham, a Patron of NRS, was the preacher. This was a smaller event, but was much appreciated by a number of people whose opportunities to find time away from their farming duties are limited.

Members of our committees attended three ploughing matches, which provide an opportunity to meet and talk to a wide variety of town and country people, and we thank J H Walter, Savills and the NFU who sponsored us and allowed us space on their stands. We have also been represented at a number of farm sales.

PEOPLE

During the year we welcomed Emma Bradley, a farmer of Sturton-le-Steeple, who joined our Steering Group, and Helen Nall, who has already made a contribution as a new member of the Marketing Group.

Lesley Sharpe, our casework supervisor, and her team have seen an increase of 300% in the number of cases referred to them during 2016. Lesley's reports to the trustees demonstrate just how much difference she and the other caseworkers are able to make to the lives of people who face a variety of problems. We are extraordinarily lucky and grateful that Lesley is able to achieve this in addition to her many other commitments.

FINANCE

As any small charity knows, it is prudent not to be complacent about an annual report, because it is only by constant effort and activity that the figures can be kept in the black. Much of our concentration from now on will be to ensure that we generate enough income to be able to continue our work at Newark Livestock Market.

The Annual accounts show that after three years of existence, NRS is able to maintain a reserve of two years operating costs and to look forward with some confidence. Once more we would like to thank, most warmly, all those who have shown such generous and loyal support, and who are too numerous to name individually. Foremost has been the whole agricultural community of the County, led by the Agricultural Society, and just as important to us as the financial contribution is the knowledge that our work is valued by the people who we exist to help.

Early in 2016, it was decided that, in the interests of keeping a simple structure, a separate Finance Committee was not justified and that function is now the responsibility of the Steering Group.

The progress which we have made is due to the commitment and dedication of our team, which is entirely voluntary. My fellow trustees have given their fullest support and co-operation and they and the members of the two Groups have worked hard and effectively, both in committee and in many other ways, and I would like to thank them all. We would also like to acknowledge the administrative support which we are given so willingly by Diocesan Staff at Jubilee House, and particularly by Catriona Gundlach, Eleanor Dunleavy and Jill Stanforth. Lincolnshire Rural Support Network continues to offer the advice, encouragement and help without which it would have been so much more difficult to establish the charity originally.

I would urge you to help all of them to continue the work of the NRS, which is likely to be even more important in an uncertain future.

Peter Geldart

Chairman

**Patrons: The Rt. Revd Paul Williams, Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham
 Sir Andrew Buchanan
 Amanda Farr DL**

Nottinghamshire Rural Support

Annual accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016

Incoming Resources	2016	2015
Donations	7,167.00	5,181.93
Events	6,308.05	1,063.80
Sponsorship		750.00
Covenants	300.00	
Total Incoming Resources	13,775.05	7,170.73
Expenditure		
Cost of generating funds	3,705.28	1,227.26
Display and printing	797.16	
Development Officer	2,646.00	
Administration and Governance costs	3,268.88	3,312.72
Total expenditure	10,417.32	4,539.98
Net incoming resources	3,357.73	2,630.75
Balance Sheet		
Opening balance	7,150.17	4,519.32
Surplus for year	3,357.73	2,630.75
Net assets - balance at bank	10,507.90	7,150.07

These accounts have been independently examined and agreed as accurate by Mark Chatterton BSc (Hons), FCA of Duncan and Toplis, Chartered Accountants, 14 London Road, Newark.

Peter Geldart (Trustee and Chairman), E M Astley-Arlington (Trustee) Sir John Starkey Bt. (Trustee)

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