



August 2020 Newsletter

Welcome to this Summer Edition of the AFCP newsletter which includes details of the Forums and meetings we have planned for the next few months and initial plans for those to be held in 2021, and also opportunities to collaborate in other joint projects.

AFCP exists to inspire closer collaboration between charities and organisations in order to drive greater impacts from the charitable donations being made in food and farming.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

East of England Regional Forum, Thursday October 8th at 11 am,
via video conferencing- details to follow.

South West of England Regional Forum, Monday October 12th at 2pm,
via video conferencing- details to follow.

AFCP AGM on Tuesday November 17th 2020 planned to be held at Duchy of Cornwall offices, Buckingham Gate, London - details to follow.

AFCP Forum on Management of oilseed rape diseases and pests,
Thursday April 8th 2021 at the University of Hertfordshire.

AFCP FORUMS

Because of the uncertainties created by COVID-19 we have, somewhat reluctantly, decided that our two regional events timetabled for this autumn will be held by video conferencing.

These will provide an opportunity to hear about some of our jointly funded studentships.

For the **South West Region**, on **October 8th**, Bobby Hyde will discuss his work on **calf health** and Luke O'Grady will talk about plans for a newly-funded project on **carbon emissions from dairy production systems**, and hopefully introduce the research student, Fern Baker, who will be carrying out the research.

In the **Eastern Region**, on **October 12th**, George Crane will report on his **research on soil health**. Thanks to additional funding from both the AHDB and from AFCP charities, George has been able to extend his project for 6 months, until the middle of 2021, to compensate for the disruption caused by the lockdown. We hope that we may get the opportunity for a face-to-face meeting before he finishes his research.

The oilseed rape forum which was planned for last spring has now been re-timetabled for **Thursday April 8th 2021** at the **University of Hertfordshire**. There will be more details nearer the time.

Our **biennial Student Forum** is planned to be held at **Cranfield University** at the **end of June or early July 2021**. As in the past, all students funded or part-funded by charities will be invited and given the opportunity to present their work. Charities will be sent further information once the date and other details have been finalised.

The **biennial National Forum** is at an early stage of planning but we hope to hold it at a land-based college with a programme which will relate directly to college interests.

If you wish to register an interest in any of these Forums, please contact the AFCP Company Secretary (elizabeth@iagre.org) or Chairman (graham.jellis@gmail.com).

INVITATION TO THE LAUNCH OF NEW CROP SCIENCE CENTRE

Professor Giles Oldroyd FRS (University of Cambridge, Director of Crop Science Centre) and Dr Tina Barsby (CEO, NIAB) are pleased to invite you to the virtual launch of the [Crop Science Centre](#) on 1st October 2020 at 16:00 BST. If you are interested, please email elizabeth@iagre.org or graham.jellis@gmail.com by Friday 4 September 2020.

NEWS FROM LEAF EDUCATION

A report of LEAF Education and Public Engagement activity is available on the [AFCP website](#).

Activities described include:

- Farming Fortnight,
- LEAF engagement in the Defra Environmental Land Management Scheme,
- Online Farming Sunday,
- Countryside Classroom,
- FarmerTime and
- Virtual#FarmMyFood.

There is also a summary of resources available for teachers and other educators. Do take a look!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDING

Digitising of the Brighton Crop Protection Conferences

In the last Newsletter, we included details of a project which the British Crop Production Council plans to undertake to digitise the proceedings of the crop protection conferences held annually from 1954 in a fully searchable format. To date, four AFCP charities have donated a total of **£5.5K** towards this project, for which the BCPC is very grateful.

Many charity trustees and others will have benefited from 'Brighton Conferences' and other charities may see this as a great opportunity to ensure this knowledge is available to future generations. For further information, please contact the Managing Director of BCPC, Julian Westaway, at MD@bcpc.org. The total cost of the project is expected to be in the order of £16K.

Support for agribusinesses in Scotland

Firstport's LaunchMe programme is a business support and investment readiness programme that helps ambitious Scottish social enterprises to scale and make a greater impact. Below are brief details of three of the businesses they are currently supporting, where they are looking for additional funds:

1. Sustainable Thinking Scotland CIC – contact Sean Kerr

sean.stscic@gmail.com

Sustainable Thinking Scotland CIC address a wide range of social and environmental issues within the Falkirk area. They grow fruit and vegetables for the local foodbank, run recycling services, school education programmes and are pioneering biochar production for use as a fertiliser in their food production and for water remediation.

They are seeking funding to develop a community orchard. The project aims to engage disadvantaged members of the community in growing food, healthy eating and outdoor exercise and will include a targeted schools programme for local children living in the bottom 5% of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. They have applied to the Central Scotland Green Network Fund for £7,500 and need match funding of £5,000.

2. Farmer Jones Academy CIC – contact Sarah Mackenzie

sarah@farmerjones.co.uk

Farmer Jones Academy CIC, based in Tain in the Highlands, provides foundation and modern apprenticeships to young people. They aim to combat rural deprivation by creating positive destinations for young people at risk of unemployment.

They are in the process of developing their own training base whilst also working within communities to develop outdoor learning spaces where they can deliver a variety of programmes. They are expanding their training portfolio with SQA wider achievement courses and are in the process of becoming an accredited Prince's Trust Centre.

3. Woodside Arran CIC – contact Jennifer Macdonald

jenny@woodsidearran.com

Woodside Arran CIC is a community permaculture farm on the Isle of Arran. They provide sustainable, affordable fresh produce to the local community whilst advocating and educating about local food resilience, regenerative agriculture practices, healthy nutrition.

In May 2020 Woodside Arran was approached to become an anchor organisation for the Coronavirus Community Fund. Their application was successful, allowing them to create a whole new “food bank garden”, which has expanded their growing space by 400%.

For further information regarding Firstport’s LaunchMe programme –

contact Sinead Reynolds sinead@firstport.org.uk



ARE YOU AN INDIVIDUAL SEEKING CHARITABLE FUNDING?

You're a researcher, a student, maybe planning to do a PhD or CPD to further your career. You have project in mind. In involves...

FIND OUT MORE



ARE YOU A CHARITY SEEKING CHARITY PARTNERS?

You're a charity administrator, Trustee or Board Member and keen to make best use of your available research or grant monies, but...

FIND OUT MORE



ARE YOU A CHARITY SEEKING R&D OR EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS?

You're a charity administrator, Trustee or Board Member, and keen to make best use of next year's available research or grant...

FIND OUT MORE



SEARCH LANDEX COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

LANDEX - 'land-based colleges aspiring to excellence' has 40 member colleges and universities spanning...

FIND OUT MORE

AFCP Contacts

Graham Jellis (Chairman): graham.jellis@gmail.com
Elizabeth Stephens (Company Secretary): elizabeth@iagre.org

BOARD DIRECTORS:

Philip Richardson, Gordon Bennett,
Alex Payne, Jim Stevens

AFCP was registered as a company limited by guarantee in February 2008 and became a registered charity in June 2015. The Board and its Directors and advisors represent a range of charities and organisations from across the UK.

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