Greenacres Smallholding CIC Annual Parish Meeting 2024

Our main aims are to

- 1. Maintain & Sustain the Suffolk heritage breeds of livestock for future generations
- 2. Provide on farm experiences to children & adults locally (within 5 miles of the farm)who would never normally have the opportunity to experience the countryside and learn where their food comes from
- 3. We hold an annual open farm & family fun day to raise money for the Witnesham Preschool and the Country Trust charity.

Today we've come here, straight from the Suffolk Agricultural Association Schools Farm and Country Fair, where we met 4000 School children from around Suffolk with one of our sows and a litter of piglets. And we've been invited back next year.

Since last April, we have welcomed over 100 School children to the farm through the Country Trust farm discovery days.

The children have visited a working farm, learn about where their food comes from, learn the names of animal species, male & female etc and meet the livestock.

We are on track to double the numbers of children this year.

We have taken possession of 1100 trees through the Woodland Trust Grant, of which most have been planted around the farm boundary.

We would like to thank the Parish Council for the daffodils donated to the farm, they have given a beautiful display to the farm entrance.

All of the machinery and equipment left by previous farm tenants has now been removed and this Winter the overgrowth has been cleared from the North West corner around the barn area to make room for machinery and equipment that can currently be seen from the road.

Paul has been working hard all year to create our market garden, using no dig principles. He has installed 3 composting units and is turning food waste into compost. He is currently growing a salad crop that will be available to buy very soon.

We have working parties arranged throughout the Summer, we meet on the 3rd weekend of the month to work on specific projects.

We have secured a regular pitch on a Friday on Ipswich Market selling produce directly from the farm and Lane Farm, Swilland

Our Open day this year is Saturday 21st September, we look forward to seeing you all there.

Jo Henderson