

RABI's letter of thanks

On behalf of RABI and its beneficiaries, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of £500, sent via Sally Mitchell, county secretary to the Norfolk committee, towards our emergency fund following the flooding in Cumbria and elsewhere.

"As always, we very much appreciate such contributions towards the charity's work assisting farming families.

"Your concern for farming families in the north west of England is justified. Since Storm Desmond subsided, RABI has been helping affected farmers and working closely with other organisations to ensure the word is spread effectively about the range of assistance that it's available.

"The experience we gained in Somerset last year has been most useful and RABI is now part of a new collaborative initiative - the Cumbria Farm Flood Action Group - which has been formed to provide on-going support.

"Our staff continue to be on the ground locally and have been holding "surgeries" at various auction marts where they have been able to talk to farmers directly and complete forms there and then.

"We have fast-tracked our application process and have given a number of emergency grants to those affected. Not surprisingly, our Helpline has been busy - but meanwhile, of course, our regular work also continues at what is always a hectic time of year."

"Once again thank your for your continued support. We are most grateful.

Paul Burrows, chief executive, RABI.