

Quad bike winner

One delighted dairy farmer, Sally Banbury, was 'over the moon' when she heard she'd won top prize – a new Honda quad bike – in NMR's awareness competition.

"I entered the competition in September at an NMR training day where I learnt how to use the website and about some of the services NMR offers, as well as the milk recording service that we use," says Sally.

Sally, with her husband Peter and son Craig, runs a 150-cow herd near Okehampton, Devon. The Banburys operate a traditional grazing system so the cows are out at grass from April to November, weather permitting.

They keep all their calves, rearing their own dairy replacements and aiming to take the remaining beef-cross animals to store.

The 122-hectares of pasture, arable and woodland is partly hilly, so a quad bike is a very useful machine to have around the farm.

"Our old bike gave up a few years ago and as the farm is spread across three sites it will be great to have a replacement to speed up checking stock and bringing the cows in.

"I've never won anything like this before so I was completely speechless when our NMR field manager, Anne Seedhouse, told me the good news!"

NMR ran its awareness campaign from July to the end of 2010. It quizzed entrants on their navigation of the new NMR website to glean answers on its range of products and services.

The draw, made from all correct entries, took place in early January.

Proud winner Sally Banbury receives the keys of her new Honda quad bike from NMR's Richard Miller (right) with son Craig (left) and farm worker Graham Powlesland



Area manager post for Sue



Sue Waine

In August 2008 Sue Waine answered an advert in the local shop for a job as an NMR milk recorder. She applied, got the job and started work on about eight farms around Faringdon, Oxford. She soon moved on to the full-time role of area co-ordinator, looking after 40 farms from Essex across Surrey and into the Cotswolds.

Two and a half years later Sue has taken on the job of NMR area field manager, co-ordinating services provided to 200 herds in southern England.

Sue has a farming background. She started her career as a veterinary nurse and has been involved in brucellosis blood testing, calf colostrum testing and calf rearing.

Midlands cow tops table

The November and December lists of NMR recorded cows achieving 100 tonnes of milk and ranked on lifetime daily yield (LDY) are published on the NMR website.

Here's the top three for the two-month period:

1. 821 owned by Garner and Wade, Honey Pot Farm, Husbands Bosworth, Lutterworth, Leics. She produced 105,631kg of milk with a LDY of 28.4kg and is in her seventh lactation.

2. 172 owned by F. and B. A. Welford, Marsh Farm, Scaling Loftus, Saltburn, Cleveland. She produced 100,457kg of milk with a LDY of 27.87kg and is in her eighth lactation.

3. 321 Annette 10 owned by S.G. Brimacombe and Sons from Hill Barton, Yeoford, Crediton, Devon. She produced 101,355kg with a LDY of 27.45kg and is now in her eighth lactation.

Last few diaries

More than 1,600 NMR 2011 diaries are now on farm and there are just a few remaining.

These are available for £22.00 plus VAT but including post and packing from NMR Customer Services on 0844 725 5567 or by email: customerservices@nmr.co.uk.

The new edition of the diary includes sections on service records, calving details, animal movements and medical records. New for 2011 are extra packs of calendar pages and medical and mobility sheets.