

Contact details for CARAS National Panels

England:

Honorary Secretary— **Ann Newbold**

Email: England@caras.uk.com

Northern Ireland:

Honorary Secretary— **Vickie White**

Email: vickie@ruas.org.uk

Scotland:

Honorary Secretary— **Janelle Anderson**

Email: caras@rhass.org.uk

Wales:

Honorary Secretary— **Aled Rhys Jones**

Email: chiefexecutive@rwas.co.uk



CARAS Award

Recognising Outstanding Achievement within UK Agriculture

The award of Fellowship or Associateship of the Royal Agricultural Societies is a prestigious honour. They are given in recognition of outstanding contribution to the understanding, efficiency and well being of UK agriculture.

Potential recipients who are identified will have demonstrated excellence, achievement and impact, thus comprising a distinctive leadership group with much to contribute to the future development of UK agriculture, to its associated industries and to wider society.



Secretary - **Richard Cooksley**

Council for Awards of Royal Agricultural Societies

Portbury House, Sheepway, Portbury, Bristol, BS20 7TE

Richard@caras.uk.com



Council for Awards of Royal Agricultural Societies

Recognising the Achievement of Those working with UK Agriculture

The above Council was established in 1983, following on from what began in 1970 as a Council of Fellows of Royal Agricultural Societies. It acts on behalf of the UK's four national Royal Agricultural Societies – The Royal Agricultural Society of England, The Royal Highland & Agricultural Society of Scotland, The Royal Ulster Agricultural Society, and The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society.

The objective is to recognise, through an Awards scheme, distinguished achievement in agriculture and related land-based industries.

The Awards embrace not only practical farming and the development of new husbandry practices, but also research, technology, economics, education, knowledge transfer, farming, communication and administration.

A Fellowship (FRAgS) or Associateship (ARAgS) is a recognition of outstanding contribution by an individual to the understanding, efficiency and well-being of agriculture.

Each year approximately 40 awards of Associateship and 30 advancements for Fellowship are made.

The Council is aware that there will be many candidates worthy of consideration and who might meet the high standards required for an award. It seeks to encourage existing Fellows to nominate such people to the National Panel of the candidate's nation of UK residence.

- **Associateship (ARAgS)** is a recognition of meritorious contribution to the agricultural and land-based industries of the UK and is awarded to those who can demonstrate the required high level of achievement.
- **Fellowship (FRAgS)** is the senior Award of the Council. Associates may be considered for advancement to Fellowship if, after five years as an Associate, they can demonstrate a continuing significant contribution to agricultural and the rural economy in the UK. Advancement is not automatic and is subject to a rigorous evaluation process.

Holders of the Awards of ARAgS and FRAgS cover a wide spectrum. The Awards reward personal achievement in a professional capacity and all recipients are individuals of influence within Agriculture. They range from practi-

cal farmers to academics, company directors, media practitioners, administrators, business advisors and consultants.

• **Scheme Administration**

The scheme is administered by the Council for Awards, which consists of representatives of the participating Royal Agricultural Societies, members elected by the Fellows, ex-officio and co-opted members. The Council is supported by a National Panel in each of the four nations of the UK. Candidates for awards are initially invited by National Panels before recommendation to the Council.

• **Application Process**

Application is by invitation. Candidates are invited by the National Panel of the UK nation where they live to submit the application form together with an outline of their contributions to agricultural and the rural economy. The form and entry fee should be forwarded to the UK Hon Secretary.

Candidates must be sponsored by two existing Fellows (holders of FRAgS).

Applications will be subject to the approval of the relevant National Panel.

Two Assessors appointed by the National Panel will interview the candidate to discuss the farming system, practice, project or personal contribution upon which the submission is based.

The Assessors will then prepare a Report on the interview for submission to the Moderators Panel. This panel comprises elected representatives from each Nation who consider the candidates submission and Assessment report in detail and make recommendations to the full Council on whether an Award is merited.

Certificates are presented at an appropriate event of the participating Royal Agricultural Society concerned.

Privileges of Fellowship & Associateship

National Panels arrange meetings and visits to discuss and exchange ideas. Social events provide an opportunity to meet with other Fellows and Associates. Newsletters and Reports on conferences and seminars are circulated regularly.

A Fellowship or Associateship of Royal Agricultural Societies is a prestigious honour – a recognition of outstanding contribution to the understanding, efficiency and well-being of UK agriculture.