



## **Forde Abbey Summer Fair - an ideal family day out**

All the fun of the traditional country fete combined with the beauty of world famous gardens set against the backdrop of a twelfth century former Cistercian abbey. That is what is on offer at Forde Abbey near Chard on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> July 2006.

Forde Abbey is hosting its biannual summer fair to raise money for charity. The day will bring together a host of family attractions including a falconry display, dog agility, Punch and Judy, Majorettes and live music, as well as stalls promoting local produce and craftsmanship. Once again this ideal summer family outing is being organised with the help of the Dorset committee of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institute (RABI). The 2002 and 2004 events together raised over £30,000 for RABI and it is hoped that this will be increased to over £50,000 in 2006.

RABI has been supporting people working on the land since 1860 and now, more than ever before, it is providing an essential lifeline for those in farming who are struggling to make ends meet. For many a lifetime on the land means poverty in old age. In 2005, RABI awarded over £1.5 million to help elderly and disabled members of the farming community and working farming families who were facing severe hardship, with more than £73,416 being provided in grants for 78 beneficiaries in Dorset and Somerset.

**The fair opens at 11am and continues until 4pm.**

**Entry is £5 for adults and £1 for children. Under 5s go free.**

**Full details of RABI and its work are available on the RABI website – [www.rabi.org.uk](http://www.rabi.org.uk)**

**For more information about the Summer Fair please go to the Forde Abbey website – [www.fordeabbey.co.uk](http://www.fordeabbey.co.uk)**

For Editors:

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### ***Forde Abbey***

*Gardens Open daily throughout the year 10.00 am - 4.30pm*

*House Open 12 noon – 4pm Tues-Fri, Sun & Bank Hols, 2<sup>nd</sup> April – end Oct*

*Signposted from A358 Chard/Axminster, A3066 Bridport/Crewkerne, A30 Chard/Crewkerne*