

# Society Matters Newsletter

Spring Edition : March 2024



**Newark  
& Notts**  
Agri Society



 Show Chairman, Des Allen and Show President, Bob Sheldon



## Countdown to the County Show

**A message from Des Allen, the new  
Nottinghamshire County Show Chairman.**

"I first attended the Show when I was five and I remember the canvas tents and the grand parade of cattle, It is something I look forward to attending every year.

Now, as the Show Chairman, I can't wait to experience it in a different capacity and help bring farming and rural life to the forefront, showcasing the very best of our county to the public.

The show is a hugely important part of the work the Society carries out all year round, to be a driving force behind the promotion of agriculture in the region, and everyone was pleased to see so many people coming along last year to enjoy what was on offer.

We always try to keep the show fresh whilst continuing our renewed focus on agriculture, which is why we're pleased to be looking at new ways to promote growing and feature as many animals as possible."

This year's show will be Des's first event in his new role after he took over the reins from Richard Sheldon.

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# What's on at this year's Nottinghamshire County Show!





**We've got so much lined up for your visit to Newark Showground on 11th May!**

As always, the Show will bring the heart of Nottinghamshire and the regional agricultural community together to celebrate food, farming and the countryside.

The event is overflowing with a wide variety of animals from horses, donkeys and sheep, family fun activities, competitions and local food & drink – experience the best of farming and rural life from your county!

Members and visitors will be able to enjoy a new revved-up attraction in the main ring, with the daredevil talents of the IMPS Motorcycle Display team, whose young riders will be performing an unmissable display of discipline and skill.

In other areas, we have:

-  **Countryside Area** – Experience fun countryside activities, workshops, demos, displays, and a family dog show. Get close to animals in the 'Farmyard & Friends' yard, with the likes of White Post Farm and The Sheep Show.
-  **Community Zone** – Bringing Nottinghamshire communities closer together. A hub for various activities, showcasing county-wide groups, performers, bands, and musicians to entertain visitors all day long.
-  **Festival of Food** – Indulge in the best of food, shopping, and music! Experience the flavours of the countryside with handpicked local food and drink producers from Nottinghamshire and beyond. All whilst enjoying music from our bandstand.
-  A jam-packed area with floral displays, the 'Growing Hub', where families can have a go at planting and growing and the 'Make, Bake & Grow' section, ideal if you're a budding baker, grower or gardener.



## Why not get involved?

### Make, Bake & Grow Competitions.

Are you a budding baker, preserve maker, or gardener?

There is something for everyone, with classes for budding bakers, gardeners and more, including age-specific children's classes. Whether you're a beginner or more experienced, there is something for everyone to get involved in

This year, there are 8 classes for children, split into age categories: 7 years and under and 8 to 12 years. Older children and parents are also welcome and can get involved by joining any of the other 30 adult classes.

**Entries close 18th April.**

For more information, to see the full schedule and to enter please visit our website – [nottinghamshirecountyshow.com](http://nottinghamshirecountyshow.com)







## Newark & Notts Agri Society

### Membership

- 2024 Young Person's Membership (one person) – £30.00
- 2024 Single Membership (one person) – £45.00
- 2024 Joint Membership (two people) – £65.00
- 2024 Friends & Family Membership (for up to four friends or family) – £120.00
- 2024 Corporate Membership (for up to six people) – £275.00
- 2024 Life Membership (one person) – £750.00

## Haven't renewed your membership? There's still time!

We are dependent on your continued membership support. Being a part of the Society that's dedicated to supporting, celebrating and promoting agriculture in Nottinghamshire and beyond. Together, we're creating a brighter future for our local communities.

**Renew your membership or become a member now:**

[www.newarkandnotts.com](http://www.newarkandnotts.com)

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### BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER

**In addition to supporting agriculture, promoting education and helping steer the Charity, your membership also provides:**

- Free and fast-track admission to the Nottinghamshire County Show
- Use of the Members' Pavilion at the County Show, which serves complimentary morning refreshments and afternoon tea
- Forward showground parking for Members
- Free admission to Newark Vintage Tractor and Heritage Show
- The use of the Members' Lounge with complimentary refreshments at the Newark Vintage Tractor & Heritage Show
- Discounted access to a number of other events at the Showground

**[www.newarkandnotts.com](http://www.newarkandnotts.com)**



## New prominent location for the Members Area

This year, we are also delighted to share that the 'Members Area' at the Nottinghamshire County Show has moved to the Cedric Ford Pavilion, offering a more prominent position overlooking the Main Ring.

This change brings the area to the heart of the show and allows us to provide a more personal service to our valued members.



## Fire training at the Showground

In February, the entire office took part in fire safety training led by Rob, our Site Operations and Facilities Manager.

The training covered important topics such as identifying fire hazards, using fire extinguishers effectively, and creating evacuation plans.



## Farm Safety & Rural Crime Prevention Event

2 weeks ago the Society, alongside the NFU and Wilkin Chapman, hosted the Farm Safety & Rural Crime Prevention Event.

Having a stand, we joined over 20 safety and crime organisations in attendance, providing practical information about ways to be safer on the farm and sharing top tips for preventing accidents. You could also learn about the steps you can take to reduce the risk of you or your business being a target of rural crime.

There was a great selection of speakers throughout the day, including:

- Mark Smith, Openfield – Discussing putting the right health and safety measures in place on your farm.
- Tom Martin, Wilkin Chapman – Speaking about employer liabilities in the event of an accident and what cover you need in place.
- Adrian Baugh, Farmer – Sharing his own experience with mental health and the support he has received from the FCN.
- David Elms, Nottinghamshire Police – Talking about rural crime prevention and how you can protect yourself and your property
- National Grid – Working safely around powerlines

This event also offered a great opportunity to gain more knowledge and update your CPD by collecting BASIS and NRoSO points.







# WE'RE LOOKING FOR **VOLUNTEERS & STEWARDS**

**Join us in making a difference at the  
Nottinghamshire County Show!**

**Your support is crucial, and we would love you to join our team. Whether it's volunteering at our Show or throughout the year in various roles like office administration, gardening, painting, maintenance, or whatever you could turn your hand to, we would welcome your help. Your time and effort will make a real difference.**

**To register your interest please contact:  
[info@newarkandnotts.com](mailto:info@newarkandnotts.com)**



**11 May, 2024**



**Newark Showground**



**Newark & Notts  
Agricultural Society**





## Spring at the Showground!

### The latest updates from the sales team.

The county has seen an incredibly wet winter with devastating flooding impacting many businesses and homes in our region. At the Showground, we have been incredibly lucky that rain has not stopped play. Our Grounds team's efforts have ensured that all events could go ahead as planned with no disruption.

January and February saw the start of our busy events calendar year with an eclectic mix of events. Toy Collectors Fair, Classic Bike Show, The Quilting and Patchwork Show, IACF Antiques, Cupid's Wedding Show, The Well Being Show and Autojumble all made a return.

Dinners, award evenings and charity events have seen the Cedric Ford Pavilion and Joe Hallam bustling in months that many would expect to be quieter. Charity events this year, thus far, have included the well-attended Lincolnshire Air Ambulance Lunch and Frog Racing for Cancer Research hosted by Roger Pykett, which saw attendees getting competitive and racing their wooden frogs to the finish line!

As we creep into March, we have started to see snippets of Spring, and the calendar continues to fill with returning and new events.

Outdoor events and Summer will be here before we know it.



## Grounds Update

### Improvements to Showground facilities

With the coming of the new year and a quieter period in large outdoor events, we can progress with improvement projects for the Showground. However, this year's exceptionally wet weather has brought with it added challenges with the Grounds team having to physically remove, more than 150 tonnes of standing water on areas of the Showground to enable it to be used.

Improvements have been made at the rear of the George Stephenson Exhibition Hall, with the completion of a levelled hardstanding which will allow for an extended container storage area and the concrete footings by the borehole at the Willow Ring to receive the water tank scheduled for the 22nd March, allowing us to move towards linking the system.

These projects, along with repairing the potholes within the Showground and enhancing the security at our vehicle access gates by installing removable bollards, all contribute to providing a safe and secure environment for our customers and visitor experience







[www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/easter-egg-cheesecake](http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/easter-egg-cheesecake)



## Easter egg cheesecake

**With Easter coming up, you're bound to have leftover Easter eggs to use up! Try incorporating them into an easy no-bake vanilla cheesecake. Chill the cheesecake overnight for the best results.**

**Prep** 20 mins / Over night chilling

**Serves** 10

### Ingredients

- vegetable oil, for the tin
- 200g digestive biscuits
- 80g unsalted butter, melted
- 250g chocolate mini eggs or leftover Easter eggs
- 400g full-fat soft cheese
- 150g icing sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla bean paste
- 400g double cream

### Method

- 1** Oil a 20cm deep springform cake tin and line with baking parchment. Tip the digestive biscuits into a food bag or the bowl of a food processor and crush or blitz to a fine crumb. Mix with the melted butter, then press into the base of the prepared cake tin and chill for 30 mins.
- 2** Roughly chop half the chocolate mini eggs. Beat the soft cheese with the icing sugar and vanilla until just combined using an electric whisk. Clean the beaters, then beat the double cream to stiff peaks in a separate bowl. Gently fold the whipped cream into the soft cheese mixture along with the chopped chocolate mini eggs. Spoon the cheesecake mixture over the biscuit base, then smooth the surface with a palette knife or spatula. Chill overnight.
- 3** The next day, carefully release the cheesecake from the tin (you may need to run a cutlery knife around the edge to loosen it) and top with the remaining whole chocolate mini eggs to decorate.



## Diary Dates

23 March	Night Of The Prospects – Boxing
24 March	EMBBA Bird Event
6–7 April	Hornby Railway Collectors Association 55th Anniversary Exhibition
11–12 April	Newark International Antiques & Collectors Fair
14 April	‘Normous Newark Autojumble
19–21 April	Newark Garden Show
20–21 April	All About Dogs Show

For more event information in April and May,  
go to: [newarkshowground.com](http://newarkshowground.com)



## Staff News

Jodie has joined the Showground as Sales Office Manager and has worked in luxury hotels and event venues across the country for 10 years, before recently relocating to Lincolnshire in 2023.

Jodie grew up studying dance and performing arts, however after an injury, found hospitality was her calling. She plans to spend time getting to know and understand how the Showground works and learn all about the local area and the relationships we have with our local businesses.



**Jodie Heap**  
Sales Manger  
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## NFU members back plans to save lives on farm using the latest kit and improved first aid

Farmer David Brookes, of Lower Loxley, near Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, has urged the NFU, rural insurer NFU Mutual and others to support the idea after he put it to the NFU Midlands Regional board.

The board is made up of farmers from across all 12 regional counties.

He then put the idea to NFU Council at its quarterly meeting in January and the resolution was unanimously agreed.

Mr Brookes said that given the average farmer's age was 59, and more and more livestock marts and rural venues had brought defibrillator kits in, he thought it would make sense to see more provision on-farm as every second counted when it came to a cardiac arrest.

"I would urge farmers to ensure they have first aid stations that are well equipped and accessible and if possible to get a defibrillator.

"We have got an ageing workforce in farming and we should be talking about this and calling for improvements.

"Many rural pubs and village halls have defibrillators in place, which is great, but sometimes they are still some distance from isolated farms if a farmer or worker has a medical emergency.

"In rural areas, it can also be hard for emergency services to get to a call quickly, so every second counts."

