



# SOCIETY MATTERS

NEWARK & NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AGRICULTURAL  
SOCIETY



WELCOME TO OUR SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

**FROM THE NEWARK & NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY**

From everyone here at the Society, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We would like to thank you all for your continued support and commitment. Without this, we wouldn't be able to run three fantastic agriculturally focused Shows, continue our support for rural activities or provide much-needed educational grants and assistance... as well as hosting a calendar full of events on the Showground throughout the year!

This year has been one of recovery, growth and getting back to pre-pandemic levels, and despite the challenges, it has been very successful. I am proud to lead our small but dedicated team, which continues to go from strength to strength, supporting our core charitable aims whilst delivering one of the busiest hospitality and event schedules around.

Particular thanks must also go to the volunteers who do so much to support the Charity, they do a brilliant job but there is always more to do, so... if you are stuck for a New Year's resolution, why not give us a call and become a volunteer yourself?

We look forward to seeing you all again in 2023!

**Simon Eccleston, CEO**

# RENEW MEMBERSHIP TODAY



We are dependent on your continued membership support. Renewing your membership will allow us to continue our Charity's objectives in promoting, celebrating, and championing agriculture across the Midlands region.

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR BECOME A MEMBER NOW:**

[WWW.NOTTINGHAMSHIRECOUNTYSHOW.COM/MEMBERSHIP](http://WWW.NOTTINGHAMSHIRECOUNTYSHOW.COM/MEMBERSHIP)

**2023 Young Person's Membership\* - £26.00**

**2023 Single Membership - £40.00**

**2023 Joint Membership (two people) - £60.00**

**2023 Friends & Family Membership (for up to four friends or family) - £110.00**

**2023 Corporate Membership (for up to six people) - £250.00**

**MORE  
BENEFITS  
COMING  
SOON!**

## **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, with access to a private patio overlooking the Newark ring
- 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

For full benefits please visit:  
[www.nottinghamshirecountyshow.com/membership](http://www.nottinghamshirecountyshow.com/membership)



**PROMOTE**



**CELEBRATE**



**CHAMPION**



# A STRONG 2023 TO COME FOR NEWARK SHOWGROUND

As reported previously, 2022 was a busy year, which saw us welcome back many regular events and introduce a number of large new events to our calendar.

We hosted a record number of weddings in the second half of the year, several rolling over from the Covid period, and saw the welcome return of dinners, balls and corporate meetings including a large conference for Community Dental Services, regular seminars for DEFRA, a Twenty-fifth Anniversary Dinner for Waitrose Newark and a Young Farmers' Ball.

An exceptionally lively November (rain notwithstanding!) saw us squeeze a further four exhibitions into the Lady Eastwood alone - around the Vintage Tractor and Midlands Machinery Shows - as well as two Championship dog shows and an Autojumble. The Dickinson's Real Deal TV show slotted in alongside a wedding show and the sold-out Cranwell Hunt Ball.

December's focus is now on an Antiques Fair, an annual 'State of the Nation' staff presentation and our two Boogie with Blitzen Christmas parties have sold-out with over 800 guests signed up. Totemic returns after a long absence for a standalone Christmas party and the annual two-day Christmas Running Challenge will close the year.



2023 gets underway with a Toy Collectors' Fair on New Year's Day with the Carole Nash Winter Classic Motorbike Show, Quilting and Patchworking Show and Farmers' Ball all scheduled for the first two weeks of the year!

Among many highlights scheduled for next year are a new Comic Con event and the Tickatyboo Cat Show both in April, our first Care After Combat Charity Dinner in May, two Midland Fitness Games contests in April and May, the return of the Boden clothing sale in May and Focus Christian camp in August. With several exciting prospects still to be confirmed, it promises to be another strong year for trading.

**GET A FREE VALUATION**  
8am - 5pm  
Please bring photo ID

**NEWARK SHOWGROUND**



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NEWARK VINTAGE TRACTOR & HERITAGE SHOW

If you've ever spent time at the Vintage Tractor Show, you'll know that these exhibitors are among the most passionate you'll ever meet. And this year we brought together the owners of nearly 1,100 vintage and classic tractors, farm equipment, commercial vehicles and stationary engines – the genial vibe and raw enthusiasm is second to none.

Of course, collectively, these vehicles form a tremendously important part of our history – ranging from some of the very first engines ever built before the last century, through to the important roles they played throughout both world wars, right up to more recent nostalgic memory.



Here's a look at some of the exhibits that were on display...

## HISTORY AND PASSION COMBINE

As a wartime memento, Ian Cargill's 1942 International Harvester M was part of the lend-lease scheme, which was a government incentive to bring machinery across from the US to help UK farmers during the second world war.

Although the International was a US tractor, they ended up being made from scratch in the UK, and Ian has always loved them. "They've all got their individualities," he explains. His first purchase was a model A, in 2010, which is the smallest model – so he added the M, the largest model, in 2016. "The M was in Berwick-Upon-Tweed from new in 1942 for 53 years, before it was bought by a dealer and used for promotions in Carnforth."



Pictured: Ian Cargill

## RARE EXHIBITS WIN

Kevin Watson claimed the oldest tractor in show title, with his 1904 Sharp Auto Mower – the oldest tractor in the UK and possibly in the world. Pictured below.

"When it was built, everyone was still making big steam engines, cumbersome things for heavy work," explains Kevin. "Wilfred Sharp wanted a tractor to do small jobs on the farm, to replace one horse rather than replacing 10 horses. He built this one as a prototype, and amongst the die-hard tractor enthusiasts it's always been a myth about whether it survives or not."

Wilfred Sharp sold the tractor to Power Farming magazine, which toured England with it in the 1950s, but it's been in private hands since.



# THE NEWARK VINTAGE TRACTOR & HERITAGE SHOW CONT.

## HISTORIC EXHIBITS

Other stand-out exhibits at the show included a wide range of Rustons stationary engines, many of which were originally used to run water pumps or to automate farm work, in full working condition, steaming away on the showground.

Inside, a huge demonstration of remote-controlled tractors and vehicles made for compelling viewing (and a successful marriage proposal for one show exhibitor).



On the quirky side was a water-tight Fordson Major developed by Mike Bigland of TVR sportscars to launch and recover boats for the RNLI. A fleet of 30 of these extraordinary amphibious machines were built from 1975 onwards, and are still in service today, including with the Ministry of Defence.



A stunning 1949 Massey Harris 722, believed to be the oldest working British-built self-propelled combine, attracted a lot of interest. Having spent its entire working life at Hill Farm, Fakenham, Norfolk, it was restored by a small team of enthusiasts including the current owner, Scott Bunting. Of the 395 machines made, there are only three or four surviving today.

Another popular display was a self-propelled S.P. Minor Jones baler, introduced in 1954 at a sale price of £1,125 and driven from the Jones factory to the new customer 15 miles away in north Wales. Only six to eight of these machines were built, and this exhibit is believed to be the only one to survive.



## MASSIVE AUCTION

With so many enthusiasts in one place, it's hardly surprising that there was strong demand for Saturday's auction (4 November), with 500 lots going under the hammer. "It was a great entry – 100 more lots than last year and possibly a record," says auctioneer George Watchorn, divisional partner at Brown & Co. Attendance was also excellent, with 500 buyers registered despite the wet weather. "Everything sold very well – trade was really swift," he adds.

Highlights of the auction included a fully restored 1962 Fordson Super Major, which sold for £5,000, while a restored 1962 Fordson Super Dexter commanded £4,800. A 1972 John Deere 2120, with 9,100 hours on the clock, made £5,750.



## MIDLANDS MACHINERY SHOW A ROARING SUCCESS

Machine versatility, making the most of inputs, and soil health were key themes at the two-day Midlands Machinery Show, which attracted a large number of visitors.

“It has been superb – the best Midlands Machinery Show we’ve ever been to; our first was in 2016,” said Rhun Jones, owner of Grange Machinery whose low disturbance cultivators attracted strong interest from farmers.



There was versatility in abundance at the large and compact demo areas. In the large agricultural machinery demo area, the Manitou ULM 412 telehandler was put through its paces at its first demonstration.

In the compact demo area, the new Avant 645i was shown moving wood and bales. It is the most powerful compact loader on the market, according to Avant area sales manager Richard Jenkins.

Speaking at the NFU Environment conference, held in

tandem with the Midlands Machinery Show, Jack Watts, NFU chief value chain analyst spoke about finding the value in regenerative farming with four principles in mind “Firstly: take the long view – you won’t see returns next year – we’re talking five years plus. Secondly, work out where the value lies – is it soil health, for example? Next, measure performance and understand how to manage it – ideas could be using crop sensors or sap testers. Finally, value the resilience a regenerative system can bring – the industry could be guilty of measuring production rather than optimising resilience.”



With such a comprehensive display of machinery, together with a wealth of advice during these turbulent times, the Midlands Machinery Show proved a worthwhile day out for all. “Visitors have had a fantastic day out watching the demos, gathering advice and ideas and taking part in some unique off-road and HGV driving experiences.

“Most importantly, it has given them the opportunity to plan their next machinery investments,” said Elizabeth Halsall, Show Manager.

# APPRENTICE AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS COLLECT AWARDS AT MIDLANDS MACHINERY SHOW

NNAS were pleased to hold, for the sixth time, the Midlands Agricultural Engineering Apprenticeship Awards at this year's show. Where we saw twelve young agricultural engineer apprentices receive cash awards in recognition of their talent and dedication.

Each apprentice receives a £500 award, paid in £250 instalments over a two-year period, with most looking to spend the money on tools.

The Society launched the awards in a bid to support young people as they develop their skills within the agricultural engineering sector. Supporting aspiring agricultural engineers is vital for the future of the industry and at this year's show, we recognised up and coming talent within the sector.

Our Society's Deputy President, Pat White, who presented the awards alongside farming YouTuber Olly Harrison, likened agricultural engineers to NHS doctors. "Without them, everything grinds to a halt," he said. "They are vitally important. We need skilled craftsmen who are not worried about getting their hands dirty. These youngsters will be huge assets for the industry for years to come."

Successful 2021 applicants, receiving their second £250 instalment, were: Isaac Kirk, Ripon Farm Services; Zac Elsdon, Chandlers; Kieran Snowden, Chandlers; Oliver Coupland, Ripon Farm Service; Stella Hubbard, Farol; and Luke Hatton, Russells.

Successful 2022 applicants receiving their first £250 instalment were: Aaron Barlow, B&B Tractors; Arun Slaney, B&B Tractors; Ryan Lomas, Chandlers; Robert Ward, Farol; Craig Redfern, Sharmans Agricultural; and Evan Roberts, Ripon Farm Services.

We wish all the apprentices good luck and hope they have a long and successful career in the industry. We would also like to thank our long-time supporter and donor Geoffrey Bond, who helped set up the apprentice awards during his time as Society President.



# FARMERS URGED TO LOOK AFTER THEIR HEALTH AND SAFETY

Farmers were encouraged to look after their health and safety at the Midlands Machinery Show with a demonstration of what to do if they are involved in or come across a farm accident. A doctor was also on hand at the Health Hub to take blood pressures, with Farming Community Network support for visitors wanting to talk.

Visitors to the show were given some first aid tips, with a demonstration of someone trapped in a farm machine. As well as calling the ambulance, actions like isolating machinery, checking for consciousness and stemming bleeding were covered.

James Bannister, chairman of the National Association of Agricultural Contractors, lost his arm in a potato harvester 24 years ago and described holding it as he was lying on the stretcher.



While he still does contracting work, the accident had an immense impact on his life. "One day I went to work as normal and the next my life had changed forever. Farming has a bad safety record," he said. "The message I want to get across is to switch off tractors and farm machinery before you try to do anything else [like mending or deblocking it]."

Medical officer Dr. Margaret McDougald, advanced first aider and chair of trustees at Newark Community First Aid, had a number of visitors attend the Health Hub to have their blood pressure and blood sugar levels checked. She also advised visitors on adopting a healthier lifestyle without setting impossible goals.



Rachael Davy, marketing executive at the Farming Community Network, said it was important for farmers to talk about issues like the cost of living crisis and feelings of isolation. "While younger farmers are more engaged with others and talk more, older farmers often find it difficult."

The Health Hub had given show visitors immediate access to health checks, the opportunity to see first-hand a realistic farm accident scenario and administer first aid. They also had the chance to hear about the impact a farm accident had on a contractor's life. It is vital to continue working to get the message across to farmers about improving health and safety, for the benefit of themselves, their families and staff and the Midlands Machinery Show Health Hub plays an important part in this.







# AGM & ANNUAL REVIEW

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## 24 JANUARY 2023

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As Members and stakeholders of the Newark and Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society, you are invited to our annual review and AGM. This will be an opportunity to meet the Society's new President - Mr Pat White

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**MEETING TIME : 6.30PM**

**LOCATION : NEWARK SHOWGROUND, LADY EASTWOOD CENTRE**

The review will be followed by a glass of wine and light refreshments, please join us and meet with other Members and the team

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Please RSVP by 13th January 2023 to  
[harriet.canovan@newarkshowground.com](mailto:harriet.canovan@newarkshowground.com)

# 2023 SOCIETY SHOW DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY SHOW

13TH MAY

Entries open mid-end January



## THE NEWARK VINTAGE TRACTOR & HERITAGE SHOW

4TH & 5TH NOV

**Confirmed themes so far:**

- 20th Anniversary of the Show
- 100 Years of Row Crop Tractors
- 175 years of William Marshall
- 75 Years of Land Rover Series 1
  - 90 years of ERF Trucks
  - 90 years of Atkinson Trucks



## NEW DATES! MIDLANDS MACHINERY SHOW

8TH & 9TH NOV



# OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

7 & 8 JAN - MOTORBIKES

The Classic Bike Guide "Winter Classic"

26 JAN

Agrii Winter Conference partnered by NNAS / NFU East Midlands – for more info contact Elizabeth Halsall

9 & 10 FEB - ANTIQUES

Newark International Antiques & Collectors Fair

20 FEB - ANTIQUES

Runway Monday

25 FEB

ASAO Learning Day

4 MAR - GAMES

Hammerhead Open Tabletop Games Event

## Become a member of the NNAS

Our members are vital to the lifeblood of our society and by becoming a member you'll be supporting our charitable objectives - to promote, celebrate and champion agriculture across the Midlands region.

Check out the benefits of becoming a member by visiting:  
[www.nottinghamshirecountyshow.com/membership](http://www.nottinghamshirecountyshow.com/membership)

NEWARK SHOWGROUND  
01636 705796  
[office@newarkshowground.com](mailto:office@newarkshowground.com)  
[www.newarkshowground.com](http://www.newarkshowground.com)



## STAFF NEWS

Please say hello to the newest member of the Sales Team...  
Harriet Claypole



Harriet has joined the Sales Team as a Sales Admin and Event Co-Ordinator. Harriet has joined us from The Holiday Inn Peterborough West where she began her journey in events, planning Weddings, Balls, Conferences and much more!

# Thank You

We would like to say a big thank you to all of our volunteers, stewards and donors for all your hard work and dedication.

Without you, we would not be able to make all three shows so successful.

Merry Christmas from all the team at the Showground!