## SOCIETY MATTERS



SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



**CEO SIMON ECCLESTON NEW YEAR MESSAGE** Looking ahead, the year really does look exciting... and potentially very busy.



PRIZE WINNING **APPRENTICES AT MMS** A group of aspiring young agricultural engineers were recognised for their dedication and achievements at the Midlands Machinery Show.

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# HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM NNAS!

### Happy New Year!

I trust you were all able to enjoy a wonderful Christmas and that you will continue to remain safe and well as we enter an exciting new period.

After a difficult start, for everyone, last year, the Society saw activity coming back to the Showground at an increasing pace as the year progressed. In addition to the welcome return of many customers both new and longstanding, we were able to run two very successful shows (NVT&HS and MMS) of our own in November and it was fantastic to see the level of support these received from exhibitors and attendees alike. It was also heartening to be able to host our very popular Christmas party events — it seems like an age since we saw the site decorated and sparkling!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you that have supported and helped us in any way; organisers, exhibitors, attendees, volunteers, members and of course the staff team, who have worked so hard to get the Society through such an unusual year and prepare it to be able to ready to make the most of what looks like a very promising 2022.

Looking ahead, the year really does look exciting... and potentially very busy. In addition to the new format County Show in May, which will focus on

traditional livestock, rural activities and taking the show back to its agricultural roots. It will also include the first County based Platinum Jubilee celebrations, the Showground can look forward to possibly the busiest level of facility hire bookings ever.

We are of course, still open to uncertainty but we are looking positively to the future and are structuring the team, our facilities and the Society to be able to make the most of what the year ahead holds.



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM MMS & VTS

### MIDLANDS MACHINERY SHOW

Digital registration a success to allow for fast entry and collecting high quality visitor data.



A strong marketing campaign resulted in a gate attendance of 6000 visitors over the 2 days and 21% social media audience growth.



A busy show with 3 demonstration arenas featuring clean power, grounds care machinery and a handling arena.



Positive exhibitor feedback with 84% saying they will re-book for 2022.



### THE NEWARK VINTAGE TRACTOR & HERITAGE SHOW

A busy weekend with over 7000 visitors attending with over 50% of those buying tickets in advance.



Vintage enthusiasts from all over the UK supported the show with 952 vintage entries from 695 exhibitors.



The show celebrated 46 award winners from the different vintage classes judged.

"One of the best shows of its type. Always a very good variety of exhibits and trade stalls. It's also a chance to meet up with friends. For me it's a must attend event! I look forward to visiting every year." Visitor testimonial



A group of aspiring young agricultural engineers were recognised for their dedication and achievements at the Midlands Machinery Show.

The annual NNAS Engineering Apprenticeship award saw six students accept a cheque for £250, the first in a two-year instalment totalling £500.

#### Oliver Coupland

Oliver is in his second year at Ripon Farm Services, Retford, and loves visiting different farms with a variety of challenges. "I like the satisfaction of being able to get machines back to full working order," he said. "The money will benefit me as I will be able to purchase new battery operated tools, making the jobs I do easier and more time efficient." Mr Coupland would like to be a master technician with responsibility for training up new apprentices.

#### Isaac Kirk

Another Ripon Farm Services apprentice — based in Louth — is Isaac, who wants to specialise in harvesting support. "So far my apprenticeship has been an eye opener, the knowledge and skills I have gained are immense," he said. "Every day is different, I'm learning all the time; it's my dream job."



Pictured, middle: Oliver Coupland and Isaac Kirk

#### Kieran Snowden

One of two apprentice winners from Chandlers, Kieran has a passion for farming and looking forward to developing their careers. "It makes me very proud that the work I do helps farmers to carry on working and put food on our tables," said Mr Snowden. "It is a great honour to have been selected for this award and will help me progress in my career as well as giving me confidence that the industry is behind me."

#### Zak Elsdor

Zak the 2nd Chandlers apprentice love of tractors spans the years, from his current work on cutting edge kit to vintage tractors; something he has inherited from his grandfather's existing collection. "I helped to restore an old Massey Ferguson TE20 for the city of Norwich aviation museum; I have been interested in tractors and how things work for as long as I can remember.



Pictured: middle, Zak Elsden, 2nd on RH Kieran Snowden

#### Luke Hatton

Luke Hatton, who works at Russells, Newark. "Growing up on a farm with my Grandad I enjoyed helping repair machinery and driving the tractor," he said. "My proudest moment so far would be last harvest when one of our customers snapped the front axle on his combine. It was estimated the job would take about 10 days but my mentor and I ended up doing it in under half that, allowing the customer to get back to harvest without too much disruption."



Pictured: Right: Luke Hatton

### Stella Hubbard

Carrying the flame for women in the industry was Stella Hubbard, who works at Farol as a John Deere apprentice. "During school I developed an interest in metal work and design and took a particular interest in removing and installing components."

Having worked at John Deere in both Australia and the UK, she is now enjoying being given the independence to carry out jobs by herself. "I would like to inspire more women to take on this career. I would also love to own my own farm and develop a career in farming."



Pictured: Left: Stella Hubbar

Don't forget as part
of your 2022
Membership package
you are entitled to
Free tickets!

# SAVE THE DATE 4.05.2022

## The Nottinghamshire County Show is

### back!

Come join us for a fantastic day showcasing livestock, equine and countryside competitions with trade stands, local food producers and craft stalls. Taking the show back to its heart within the agricultural community in the Midlands!

Keep an eye on our website to see how you can get involved, enter a class or take a trade stand!

W: nottinghamshirecountyshow.com
E: show@newarkshowground.com
T: 01636 705796

### **NNAS NEEDS YOU!**

Are you looking to meet new people and be part of a small but active band of volunteers this year?

If so, we are on the lookout for volunteers to help and support the upcoming Nottinghamshire County

Show. Join and be part of a group of like-minded volunteers to help the smooth organisation of the show during set up, show day and breakdown.

If this is something you'd be interested in please contact us at:

e: show@newarkshowground.com t: 01636 705796



# UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

• 9 JAN Specialist

The Newark Arms, Armour, Medal & Militaria Fair

www.northernarmsfairs.co.uk

• 20 JAN Specialist

NHS Blood Donation www.blood.co.uk

• 3 - 4 FEB Antiques Fair

**Newark International Antiques & Collectors Fair** www.iacf.co.uk/newark/

• 5 FEB Exhibitions

**Newark & Notts County Wedding Show** www.cupidsweddingshows.com/exhibitor-information/#springfields-show

• 12 FEB Specialist

**Young Driver Training** 

www.youngdriver.eu/venues/central/newark

### Renew your NNAS Membership

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.

Click the link to choose your membership package:

www.showingscene.com/organisation/newark-andnottinghamshire-agricultural-society?memberships=1



NEWARK SHOWGROUND 01636 705796 office@newarkshowground.com www.newarkshowground.com



# TOP FIVE BRAND NEW EVENTS AT THE SHOWGROUND!

### 1. National Shire Horse Show, March 12-13.

For the first time in Newark, these amazing horses are attracting a lot of interest.

www.shire-horse.org.uk/national-show

### 2. Great British Land Rover Show, May 1

Bringing the Land Rover community together for great displays and off-road driving.

www.gblandrovershow.co.uk

### 3. Unlocked Fest, June 17-19

A relaxed, feel-good weekender for fans of '80s, '90s and noughties dance and pop tunes! www.unlockedfest.co.uk

### 4. Awaken! August 19-21

One of three new Christian camps coming to Newark with future dates already booked.

www.awakenevent.uk

### The British Cactus and Succulent Show,September 3

70 UK societies celebrate and raise awareness of succulents and cacti for both experts and complete novices.

www.society.bcss.org.uk



### **CATERING TEAM UPDATES**

Along with the new events to the showground, we are also updating our hospitality with new uniforms, staff training, menu and branding changes and a new coffee unit serving much loved cappuccinos!