

Society Matters Newsletter



Newark
& Notts
Agri Society

Spring Edition : March 2025



Show Season is Here!

Introducing this Year's Newark & Notts Agricultural Society President: Colonel Tim Richmond

We are proud to welcome Colonel Tim Richmond as this year's President. With an impressive background, Tim served as Vice Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire (2008–2022) and High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire (2002–2003). Passionate about agriculture and the rural community, Tim is eager to champion the industry throughout his presidential year.

"I am very proud to serve as President this year and to support British farming. The Show provides a fantastic platform to highlight the vital role of agriculture and demonstrate why food security is so crucial. We encourage farmers to join us in sharing this important message.

I have immense respect for farmers. They face challenges beyond their control in ways that most businesses never experience. I look forward to meeting everyone at the Show and celebrating our rich agricultural heritage together."

Having attended the County Show many times, Tim understands its role in bringing together the wider community and organisations and is particularly looking forward to visiting the ever-popular Community Zone where many of these groups will come together in the George Stephenson Exhibition Hall

He can't wait to welcome you all—see you at the Show!

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Farmers' succession planning breakfast set to kick off this year's Nottinghamshire County Show

A breakfast meeting designed to help farmers prepare for the upcoming changes to agricultural property relief from inheritance tax is set to take place on the morning of the Nottinghamshire County Show.

The event, which is called Next Generation Ready: Expert Advice on Farm Succession Planning, will be chaired by Sir Mark Spencer and will be held at Newark Showground at 9am on May 10.

The breakfast is open to visitors with farming links (pre-registration required) and is part of Newark & Notts Agricultural Society's ongoing commitment to supporting local farmers and promoting the agricultural industry.

Among the issues being discussed during the morning will be how to broach the topic of succession planning with your family and how to minimise the risks to your farming business ahead of the introduction of the £1m cap to agricultural property relief on inheritance tax.



Sir Mark, who served as farming minister under the previous Government, is a well-known figure in local farming and is the Deputy President this year.

He said: "There is a lot of concern about the changes that the Government are making to inheritance tax relief for farmers and so it's vital that they have conversations about succession planning with their families now.

"The breakfast meeting is one way to help start that process by giving them the advice they need. It's part of the Society's work to support our county's farmers and I hope we get a good turnout.

"I'm very much enjoying being Deputy President and I'm looking forward to the Show. It's a demonstration of all that's good about rural Nottinghamshire and there is something for everyone, whether they make their living from agriculture or not."



Show Manager Elizabeth Halsall said: "The County Show is the Society's biggest event of the year and it's become an extremely successful way for us to celebrate agriculture and farming across Nottinghamshire.

"The breakfast event underlines our commitment to supporting local farmers, who will receive complimentary refreshments and will then be able to enjoy the Show itself."

To register your place at the 9am breakfast event please send an RSVP to lucy.kitchen@newarkshowground.com before May 2.





Exciting New Attractions & Exclusive Member Benefits at the County Show!

As a valued member of the Newark & Notts Agricultural Society, you have VIP access to this year's Nottinghamshire County Show, on Saturday 10 May at Newark Showground.

This year marks an incredible 140th show, and we're celebrating in style! Alongside our much-loved livestock competitions, equestrian events, food and drink stands, and the Nottinghamshire Young Farmers' lawnmower race, we're introducing some exciting new features for 2025.



A Special Wartime Tribute – 80th Anniversary of VE Day.

Step back in time with a special VE Day parade, honouring the vital role Nottinghamshire's farmers and Land Girls played in keeping Britain fed during WWII.

Daredevil Action in the Main Ring!

Get ready for an adrenaline-fuelled performance from the Squibb Freestyle motorcycle stunt show—a brand-new addition to our Main Ring entertainment. Watch as riders take to the air with incredible jumps and gravity-defying tricks!



Family Fun & Farming Heritage.

Elsewhere, there will be a dog show, a family-friendly farmyard section featuring miniature donkeys and animals from White Post Farm, countryside games and the Community Zone – a hub of activities showcasing county organisations, performers, bands, and musicians.



What You Can Enjoy with Your Membership at the Show.

As a Society Member, you'll receive:

- ✓ Free fast-track admission and VIP access to the Members' Pavilion & Marquee overlooking the Main Ring at the Nottinghamshire County Show—the perfect spot at the heart of the action!
- ✓ Morning Perks & Afternoon Treats: Start with morning refreshments and unwind with afternoon tea, served in the Members' Pavilion
- ✓ Prime parking: Forward parking at the Nottinghamshire County Show.

Get Ready for the Biggest Farming Celebration in the County!





A Busy Start to the Year Here at the Showground:

We've kicked off the year with a bang, and there's no slowing us down!

Our calendar was packed with an incredible variety of events that cater to all interests and passions. From collectables and antiques to thrilling sports and charity events, 2025 is shaping up to be a year to remember.

Here are some of the events we have hosted so far this year: Toy Collectors Fair, Antiques Fair, Classic Bike Guide, Newark Quilt Show, Air Ambulance Charity Lunch, Burns Night Dinner, Farmers Balls, Medal & Militaria Fair, Charity Frog Racing, John Deere, Runway Monday, The Midlands Woodworking & Power Tool Show, Carl Greaves Boxing, Children of Courage Awards and the Kverneland Out of Season Conference.

We're thrilled also to announce new additions, Bonsai Fest and Festival of the Force.



We are excited to continue bringing you unique, engaging, and diverse events throughout the year. Be sure to check out our 'What's On' page on our website and mark your favourites. You won't want to miss out as we Spring into action in the coming months with favourites such as Rock & Gem, Antiques Fair, Midlands Fitness Games, and of course, the Newark Garden & All About Dogs Show, with many more in the lineup.

Get ready to make this Spring one to remember!



New Regulations will Soon Require Your Business to Separate Recyclable Materials From Your General Waste

What's changing and why:

From the 31st March 2025 all businesses will need to separate the following groups of recyclable materials, ensuring that they are kept separate:

- Glass, metal and plastic
- Cardboard and paper
- Food waste as a dedicated collection

The new guidelines apply to all businesses, healthcare establishments and academic institutions but small businesses with fewer than 10 full-time employees are temporarily exempt until the 31st March 2027. There is also no minimum food waste weight before the new regulations apply.

It's compulsory for businesses to arrange a separate collection of these materials, so they can be recycled efficiently.

For more information, visit <https://businessofrecycling.wrap.ngo/>



It's compulsory for businesses to arrange a separate collection of these materials, so they can be recycled efficiently.

Please help and do your bit by using the correct bins wherever they are provided.



Get involved at the Nottinghamshire County Show – Show off your Skills!

Once again we are encouraging people to get involved in our friendly Make, Bake & Grow competitions.

This is a fantastic opportunity for people to showcase their talents, with classes for budding bakers (decorate or bake a cake), gardeners (bring along your home-grown produce), preserve makers and even more including age-specific children's classes.

Entries for Make, Bake and Grow close on April 16 and for the full schedule and details on how to enter, visit www.nottinghamshirecountyshow.com/competitors



School Resource Pack

New resource pack and competitions for kids

This year, the Show's 140th anniversary, we are also providing a School Resource Pack. The pack is designed to help teachers and parents get young people (4-11) involved and get excited about the upcoming Show, as well as to help educate them on farming and the countryside.

There is lots of information about the Nottinghamshire County Show and farming, along with a host of activities and competitions to help support their understanding, and raise awareness and interest in agriculture, farming and rural life.

Alongside the usual agricultural competitions held annually, there are three new competitions aimed at children, to encourage creativity and imagination. Each comes with its own prize. Competitions are aimed at ages 4-11 and can come from a school or from an individual.

Photography Competition:

Share your most stunning shots that showcase the beauty of Nottinghamshire's countryside.

Story-telling – A Day in the life of a farmer

All you need to do is use the storyboard found in the resource pack to create 'a day in the life of a farmer.' Use words or pictures, or both to tell the best story you can.

Design a rosette

Budding artists need to get those crayons, paint or pens out and design a first-place Nottinghamshire County Show rosette! Just use the template in our resource pack and everything else is up to your imagination.

HURRY... Entries close soon!

Entries must be received by Monday 31 March and all the [details are in the pack](#). The pack can be downloaded on our visitor's page of our website, www.nottinghamshirecountyshow.com/visitors



Gift something special

Gift an NNAS membership for a wide range of Society benefits including free VIP admission to our Society events! Together, we are helping shape a vibrant future for our local rural community.

Our society events:



Young Persons
Membership
Under 30 Years

Annual Fee

£30.00

Single
Membership
One person

Annual Fee

£48.00

Joint
Membership
Two people

Annual Fee

£69.00

Friends & Family
Membership
Up to 4 people

Annual Fee

£126.00

Life
Membership
One person

One Time Fee

£750.00

Call
01636 705796

Email
info@newarkandnotts.com

newarkandnotts.com





Secure Your Stand at the Midlands Machinery Show – Early Bird Rates Available!

Don't miss your chance to exhibit at the 2025 Midlands Machinery Show with our special Early Bird rate!

Book and pay for your stand in full before 31st May 2025 to save and secure your stand at our Early Bird Rate.

Here's why it's worth attending:

- 72% of attendees are key decision-makers or influence buying decisions
- 87% use the show to connect with suppliers
- 31% have or planned to make purchases as a result of the show

With our new one-day format, the Show delivers excellent value and high-impact networking.

Act now before the summer rush! Get ahead of the busy season and secure your spot. After 31st May, full prices will apply.

To book your stand, visit midlandsmachineryshow.com

Bonus for 2024 Exhibitors: You may also be eligible for a FREE stand in the agricultural & machinery area at the Nottinghamshire County Show on 10th May 2025 – a fantastic extra opportunity to showcase your business.

Spaces are limited, so act now! Book your stand today and make the most of this exclusive offer. Just get in touch with our Trade Manager Francesca Hayes on 01636 705796.



Become a Steward at Nottinghamshire County Show!

Love animals? Passionate about the countryside? Want to support your local agricultural community?

We need YOU! We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our incredible team of stewards at the Nottinghamshire County Show on the 10th May.

It's your chance to get involved in an action-packed day celebrating farming, food, and rural life!

With a variety of stewarding roles available, there's something for everyone – whether you're an animal lover, a countryside enthusiast, or simply want to be part of an unforgettable day!

For students 16+ this is a fantastic opportunity to gain hands-on experience!

Our stewards make the Show possible, and we'd love for you to be part of it. Don't worry if you haven't stewarded before – we will explain everything and the Chief Steward will show you the ropes and support you.

Don't miss out – sign up today and help us make this year's show the best one yet!
For more information, email us at show@newarkshowground.com or call 01636 705796.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY SHOW

BECOME A STEWARD

Love animals? Passionate about the countryside? Want to support your local agricultural community?

We need YOU!

Join our incredible team of stewards & make a real difference at the Nottinghamshire County Show!

10 May, 2025 Newark Showground Newark & Notts Agricultural Society

NNAS Society Branded Items

All proceeds will go towards the work of the Charity – dedicated to promoting, celebrating and championing agriculture across the Midlands region.

If you would like to order any of these fantastic items, please contact the office at 01636 705796 or email info@newarkandnotts.com



Society Mug

£5.00



Society Tie

£25.00



Society Soft Shell Bodywarmer

Sizes from XS - 4XL

£32.00



Society Pin Badges

£2.00



NNAS Proud Sponsor of Nuffield Farming Scholarships

We, as a Society, are proud to support the Nuffield Farming Scholarships Trust.

Each year Nuffield Farming Scholarships are awarded to deserving individuals working in farming, horticulture, forestry any other countryside and ancillary industry – or individuals in a position to influence those who do.

These scholarships provide the opportunity to travel the world and study a topic of their choice, then share their knowledge and experience when they return home.

Scholars are supported throughout their journey with lectures, study groups, training sessions, mentoring and several networking and educational events in both the UK and abroad.

This is a life-changing experience for Scholars who develop their skills, knowledge, confidence and outlook, with many going on to become local, national and international leaders in their respected fields and communities.



NUFFIELD
Farming Scholarships

AGES 15 AND UNDER FREE!

Bakewell

COUNTRY FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 13TH JULY 2025 | 9:30AM - 5PM

ADULT ADVANCE £13
GATE PRICE £17

The poster features a vibrant illustration of a country festival scene. In the foreground, there's a large black and white cow, a sheep, and a horse. A man in a blue shirt and hat is standing next to a tractor. In the background, there's a stage with a band, a carousel, and various tents and stalls. The sky is blue with colorful bunting.



Creating a pathway for alternative farm fuels

For over a century, diesel has powered the machinery that drives British agriculture.

Yet, as the industry faces increasing pressure to decarbonise, the reliance on subsidised red diesel is becoming unsustainable. The RASE Farm of the Future report highlights an urgent need for farmers to transition toward alternative fuels—solutions that are practical, cost-effective, and suited to the unique demands of agriculture. But how can this shift happen in an industry shaped by seasonality, high energy demands, and rural infrastructure challenges?

To create a pathway for a transition to alternative fuels for agriculture, Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), the vehicle manufacturers, the farming community regulators and the government will need to work together. A recent Farm of the Future webinar began the conversation on farm fuels for the future, and included independent consultant Alistair Walshaw, who set out the alternatives and associated challenges with replacing red diesel in agriculture.

To read more on:

- What are the alternatives to red diesel?
- Challenges with moving away from diesel fuel for agriculture.
- Hydrogen and methane fuel generation
- What does the future of farm energy hold?

Visit - <https://farmofthefuture.co.uk/news/creating-a-pathway-for-alternative-farm-fuels/>



LEAF Conference 2025: Profit, Risk & Transformation – Recap!

Catch up on all the action.

The LEAF Conference 2025 brought together industry leaders, academics, farmers and financial experts to address the urgent challenges of sustainable farming in the face of climate change; and the interventions that are most likely to facilitate transformation across the whole food system.

With a strong focus on practical, farmer led solutions, the event explored the latest insights into global perspectives around climate change adaption, the role of agri-tech and the financial services sector in creating the enabling conditions for change.

Delivering the opening address LEAF CEO David Webster reflected on the nature of the environmental risks facing farming, including the impact of climate change. He called for a mature debate stating that:

“We need to listen carefully to those who are already delivering environmental and productivity gains on farms as a basis to shape our approach which will balance environmental and food security outcomes. It's also important to remember that global challenges require local solutions.

We have to work with the supply chain actors to harness the knowledge and expertise of farmers operating in partnership with others to build farm resilience and economic and environmental benefits.”

The conference concluded with a call to action for increased industry collaboration and financial support to accelerate the transition to climate-smart agriculture.

Full programme can be found here - <https://leaf.eco/leaf-conference-2025-livestream>



RASE Awards open for 2025 nominations

The Royal Agricultural Society of England (RASE) is now accepting nominations for the 2025 RASE Awards, celebrating excellence, innovation, and leadership in British agriculture. These prestigious awards honour individuals and organisations making an outstanding impact on farming, land management, and Agri-tech.

The 2025 awards feature six categories:

- National Agricultural Award – Recognising individuals or organisations shaping the future of British agriculture through innovation, leadership, and advocacy.
- Excellence in Practical Farming Award – Celebrating farmers applying cutting-edge science and management to create resilient, productive, and sustainable farms.
- Natural Capital Award – Showcasing those integrating environmental stewardship into their farm businesses, proving that sustainability and profitability go hand in hand.
- Farm of the Future Award – Recognising pioneers developing transformative, circular farming systems.
- Science & Technology Award – Honouring those at the forefront of research and innovation in agricultural science and technology.
- Bledisloe Gold Medal for Landowners – Recognising outstanding estate management and land stewardship.

All the awards welcome both self-nominations and recommendations. Among the categories, there are opportunities for farmers, researchers, industry professionals and landowners to be nominated for the awards.

The applications for all six of the RASE Awards will be open until 28th April, 2025. Full entry criteria and nomination forms are available on the RASE website at <https://www.rase.org.uk/about-us/awards/>.

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Open Farm Sunday

Connecting people with the farming community to discover the world of farming!

8th June 2025 | 7th June 2026

Open Farm Sunday is a fabulous opportunity to connect farmers and the public to discover the crucial work farmers do producing food, nurturing nature, and protecting the environment for future generations.

Open your Farm:

Join with hundreds of other farmers on Open Farm Sunday to build public trust, educate communities and foster meaningful connections between consumers and sustainable farming.

For more information on how to register your farm, visit <https://farmsunday.org/open-my-farm>

Visit a Farm:

Visit a farm on Open Farm Sunday, 8th June 2025 and find out about the story behind our food and how farming affects our everyday lives. Each Open Farm Sunday event is unique. Activities range from machinery displays, tractor and trailer rides, through to demonstrations, nature walks and much more!

For more information and to find your nearest Open Farm Sunday, visit <https://farmsunday.org/visit-a-farm>



https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/mediterraneanstyle_83720

Mediterranean-style Lamb Chop Traybake

This lamb chop traybake is the perfect weeknight supper – simple, flavourful chop served with lots of healthy Mediterranean vegetables and a little feta.

Prep up to 30 mins/ 30 mins – 1 hour to cook

Serves 4

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp chopped fresh mint
- 1 tsp finely chopped fresh rosemary.
- 3 garlic cloves
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 4 lean lamb chops or cutlets
- 1 aubergine, sliced
- 4 courgettes, sliced
- 2 red peppers, cut into large chunks
- 2 yellow peppers, cut into large chunks
- 85g/3oz feta cheese, crumbled
- 250g/9oz cherry tomatoes

To serve

- mixed leaf salad

Method

- 1 Preheat the oven to 180C/355F/Gas 4.
- 2 Using a pestle and mortar or food processor, blend together the mint, rosemary and the garlic, then add one tablespoon of the olive oil. Smear the herb mixture over the lamb chops.
- 3 Place the aubergine, courgette and peppers on a baking sheet. Drizzle with the remaining olive oil and place the lamb chops on top. Place into the oven to roast for 20-25 minutes.
- 4 Remove from the oven and top the chops with the feta and add the cherry tomatoes to the tray. Return to the oven for a further 10 minutes until the cheese just starts to brown and the lamb chops are just cooked through.
- 5 Serve the chops with the roasted vegetables and mixed leaf salad.



Diary Dates

30 March	'Normous Newark Car & Motorcycle Autojumble
3-4 April	Newark International Antiques & Collectors Fair
25-27 April	Newark Garden Show
25 April	The Great Gatsby Charity Ball in aid of Newark Emmaus Trust and Children's Bereavement Centre
26-27 April	All About Dogs Show
10 May	Nottinghamshire County Show

For more event information in March, April & May go to:
www.newarkshowground.com/whats-on



Showground Staff Update!



Wishing Jodie a Wonderful Maternity Leave!

Our Sales Office Manager, Jodie Heap, is heading off on maternity leave as she, her husband, and their daughter Aurora prepare to welcome a new baby girl!

Join us in wishing Jodie and her family a joyful and restful time as they await her safe arrival.

We would also like to welcome Ellie Simpson, who will be stepping into Jodie's role while she is on maternity leave and leading the team as they continue to promote the Showground as one of the premier event spaces in the region.



Ellie Simpson
Ellie.simpson@newarkshowground.com



SPOIL THEM THIS

MOTHER'S DAY

WITH OUR MOTHER'S DAY PACKAGE:

2 Adult Tickets
 Afternoon Tea
 Forward Parking
 Children 16 & Under Go Free!

Treat them today, head to
nottinghamshirecountyshow.com