

Long Service Awards

The Society makes annual awards to farm employees in recognition of their long service. A long service award is to be introduced for any employee who has completed 60 years of service. This will take the form of a trophy and £70 cash award.

A long service medal and £50 cash award will be presented to employees who have completed a minimum of 40 years service, and to employees under 50 years of age who have completed 25 years service, without intermission on the same farm and under the same employer. The employer must be a member of Newbury & District Agricultural Society. (Employees receiving a Long Service Medal in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008 are not eligible).

A long service certificate and £25 cash award will be presented to employees who have completed a minimum of 25 years service, without intermission on the same farm or under the same employer but are not eligible to receive a Long Service Medal.

Entries close on 1st August and nomination forms are available from the Office

Award of Merit

As you may know the Award of Merit is the Society's premier public award. It is a valued accolade of distinction designed to reward a meritorious and outstanding contribution to the Society, its work or its aims and objectives.

It is open to all except Members of the Society's staff whilst in its paid service. It is most likely to be awarded to those who are Members of the Society, but may, in exceptional cases be awarded to a non-Member. It is generally awarded to an individual.

A Nominations Committee selected by the Chairman will consider the nominations.

If you have someone that you wish to nominate, please forward it to Becky Elvin at the Show Office in writing giving your reasons why you feel your nominee should be given the award. In particular can you set out a summary of their achievements for the Society, and a history of their involvement within the Society.

Please send your nominations to arrive no later than 1st June 2009 and mark your envelope "Award of Merit."

Society Building

At last years County Show information boards were located around the showground summarising details of a proposed Society Building; we hope members will have had a chance to read about our plans. Since then more research has been carried out and it is hoped that a planning application can be placed this year. This is an exciting development as the proposed new building would house the cattle during the weekend of the County Show and then be available to hire for livestock, equine, dog and other events in line with our charitable objectives during the rest of the year.

A development of this nature requires a significant investment. Some funds have already been raised but further fund raising is needed. With this in mind, if any member would be interested in making a donation to the building fund please contact Ian Freeland or Simon Carter at the show office.

The President's Charity for 2009 will be Farming and Countryside Education whose aim is to educate children and young people about food and farming in a sustainable countryside.

The President Elect is Sarah Scrope. Sarah's father Gerald Ward was President in 1974.

IN MEMORY

Charles Clifford-Kingsmill

The Society were sad to learn of the death of Charles Clifford-Kingsmill who was President in 1977. He owned Sydmonton Court Estate before selling it to Andrew Lloyd Webber. His uncle, Lt Col W H Kingsmill, was President in 1958 and his nephew Chris Boreham was Chairman in 1997. He played an important part in the decision to extend the show from one to two days which started in 1976.

Ivor Davis

The local farming community lost a well known member when Ivor Davis passed away in January. Ivor was Chairman of the Show in 1959. He was particularly known for his high standard of beef cattle until he retired from farming at the age of 75 and was a keen shot.

Board Election Results

As a result of the recent election Rhona Tucker was elected to the Board of Management for a 3 year term.

Chairman of the Board, Simon Pallett, expressed his thanks to Michael Bissell for all his hard work during his time on the Board.

As a registered Charity the Society considers any requests for a charitable donation. A panel has been established to look at the many requests that come in and make recommendations to the Board for support. In 2008 the Society supported some 14 charities including the Berkshire Red Cross, the Game Conservancy and the Samaritans of Newbury. The panel will meet in May to consider applications for 2009. If you have a charity you would like to suggest please get in touch with Becky at the office before 20th May. The suggestions must fulfill the Society's objectives of promoting agriculture and the rural way of life.

Farmers Markets

NEWBURY

A Farmers Market takes place on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month between 10am - 1.30pm in the Market Place, Newbury RG14 5AG.

READING

In Reading they are held on Cattle Market site on Great Knollys Street on the first and third Saturday of each month from 8.30am to 12.00pm.

HUNGERFORD

In Hungerford they are held on the 4th Sunday of the month 9.30am - 1.00pm in the High Street.

For further information contact 0870 2414762.



THE NEWBURY & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

100 YEARS



Double Celebrations Mark 2009 Show

The countdown is on for a memorable year as the Society celebrates both its Centenary and the 100th anniversary of the first Show which was staged at Enborne Gate Farm, Newbury in September 1909.

Apart from three breaks in the 20th Century when no Show took place – during the first and second world wars and the farming depression of the early 1930s – the event has taken centre stage as a showpiece for the rural and agricultural communities and has grown into one of the leading agricultural shows in the country.

Simon Carter, Chairman of the Show said: "We are looking forward with great enthusiasm to the 2009 Show and to celebrating the Centenary of the Society. It will be a special year and it is a great honour to be Chairman as we mark this major milestone." During the Show, members will have a chance to enjoy a nostalgic look back over the past century with a '100 years of the Society' display outside the Members Area at the Show. We can still add your photos and stories to what will be a unique collection. Please do get in touch with the Show office.

There will be ample chance to revel in the nostalgia of a bygone era as several other local organisations have celebrations in 2009 including Dreweatt Neate which is notching up 250 years and the Berkshire Women's Institute which will be 90 years young.

Lovers of vintage cars will be able to enjoy the stunning sight of a mass rally of Morgan sports cars from the past century – with at least one from every decade – as the car maker marks 100 years of "British engineering" in 2009.

The Royal County of Berkshire Show will also be helping to celebrate 100 years of Naval airpower as this year marks the 100th anniversary of the Admiralty's visionary decision to order the first airship.

The Royal Navy will be marking this centenary year with a panoply of colourful events and activities throughout the UK, amongst them a visit to the show and fittingly will be taking to the skies above Newbury as the show stealing highlight of action in the main arena.

As well as a flypast by a WW2 Swordfish plane, there will be a buzz in the air as the Royal Navy Raiders Parachute Display team hovers over the showground before landing in the main arena.

The Naval theme will continue with music to entertain the crowds being provided by the Royal Marines Band who will have just returned from a tour of duty in Afghanistan.



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Diary dates for 2009

MAY
Sunday 17th
Rogation, Streatley

JUNE
Wednesday 3rd
Royal Farms Walk, Windsor

Saturday 20th & 21st
West Woodhay Garden Show

Saturday 20th
Summer Party, West Woodhay

Tuesday 23rd
Race Evening,
Newbury Racecourse

Friday 26th
Waitrose Farm Walk

AUGUST
Wednesday 5th
Junior Countryside Day,
Barn Elms Farm, Bradfield

SEPTEMBER
September 19th & 20th
The Royal County
of Berkshire Show

OCTOBER
Saturday 3rd
Stable Tour, Lambourn

Saturday 17th
Ploughing Match, West Ilsley

DECEMBER
Date tbc
Christmas Carols,
Chieveley Church

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