

JOURNAL 2016/17

THE ROYAL
BATH & WEST
OF ENGLAND SOCIETY
PATRON HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
VICE PATRON HRH THE COUNTESS OF WESSEX GCVO





Front Cover

Harry Stamp – Leading the champion Dorset Down which he showed through the classes and championship.



A future addition to the Band.

Welcome to the Journal

Since the last Journal an awful lot has happened in the world and there is no doubt that the referendum vote in favour of Brexit, and the election of Donald Trump as President of the United States, will have a considerable impact on farming in Britain and life in the West Country. It is more important than ever that we put our best foot forward and the Royal Bath & West of England Society is superbly placed to demonstrate to our own countrymen and the world at large how good we are at producing superb food to the highest standards. The Journal is a window into the extraordinary range of activities we have been involved in this year and a reminder of why the Main Show, in particular, continues to be one of the best agricultural festivals in the country.

Rupert Uloth

Hon. Editor

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Rupert Uloth

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THE ROYAL
BATH & WEST
 OF ENGLAND SOCIETY
 PATRON HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
 VICE PATRON HRH THE COUNTESS OF WESSEX GCVO

The Bath & West Showground,
 Shepton Mallet, Somerset BA4 6QN

Charity Number: 1039397
 Company Number: 02931640



Michael Eavis CBE.



A heavy Horse with flights and mane roll.



A Pig young handler.

President 2016/17

Sir John Cave Bt



Outgoing President Michael Eavis CBE (right) hands the badge of office to his successor Sir John Cave Bt.

Sir John Cave of Sidbury, Devon is the new President of the Royal Bath & West of England Society.

...I look forward to attending the many Shows the Society showcases.

He took over the reins from Michael Eavis CBE at the Society's Council meeting at the Bath & West Showground on Thursday 21 July 2016.

Handing over his presidential badge of office, Mr Eavis commented: "It has been a great privilege to be part of the team for a year. I thoroughly enjoyed the Dairy Show in 2015 as I am a very proud Dairy Farmer myself and it was a great Show.

This year's Royal Bath & West Show was an excellent display of Great British Agriculture

and Entertainment. There were many highlights of the Show for me, including the New Music area, the array of Livestock and of course being made a pair of tweed shorts."

I have thoroughly enjoyed being President and wish Sir John Cave a fantastic year."

Sir John said "I am very much looking forward to the next year as President of The Royal Bath & West Society. Agricultural Societies play a major role in the Agricultural Industry and I look forward to attending the many Shows the Society showcases."



Robert Drewett DL, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Chairman's review



The Bath & West railway.



Pinkster Gin in the Food & Drink area.

I suspect that for many of us one of the dates that will stick in our minds is 23 June 2016 and the decision by the nation to leave the European Union. From the point of view of the rural community this is likely to have far reaching effects, both in terms of the grants that may be available to farmers and also the implications for those carrying on business.

**Change is never easy,
but it seems pretty clear
that change is going
to be required...**

It is too early to be able to say with any certainty how the exit negotiations will play out but it is clear that, whilst funding for farmers may be guaranteed until 2020, thereafter the way in which subsidies are provided will be the subject of considerable public scrutiny. Already conservation bodies have made clear their views as to how funding should be judged, and there will be many more who join the fray. Based on comments to date, the need for ever greater diversification and environmental

management look to be high up the agenda, as does the emphasis on food security and these themes, or whatever may replace them over the coming months, will bring added pressures for farmers. Change is never easy, but it seems pretty clear that change is going to be required as a prerequisite to continued support from the tax payer.

focused

Since 1777 the Royal Bath & West of England Society has been focused on assisting those involved with the management of land and the production of food. In the early days this took the form of the Society's Journal, which sought to give guidance to farmers as to how best to improve productivity, and since 1852 in the form of its annual Show, where the opportunity to showcase the best stock and produce has existed. Latterly the Society has been able to act as a catalyst for change – no less so than in the lead that it took in seeking solutions to the flooding crisis in Somerset in 2013/14.

So the Society is looking forward to being able to continue to support farmers, producers and end users in the coming years in providing a platform for research and advice as well as a shop window for all that is good in the South West rural economy. At this stage it is

continued overleaf





Starting young.

too early to say what form such support might take, but the Society is very alive to the need to provide that support in conjunction with the other organisations that also do a great job in supporting those engaged in enterprise of whatever form.

charitable activities

In this respect the Society has focused this year on rejuvenating its charitable activities, and this is a welcome step forward, as is described elsewhere in this publication – please see the Chief Executive's report. Equally the Society has been taking an active role in supporting Innovation for Agriculture, a charity driven by many of England's agricultural societies, which aims to carry out and disseminate research into topical subjects. The focus at present is on precision dairying and also effective soil management, and the Society is working with IfA in relation to a specific project aimed at identifying more effective means of maize growing to prevent the large scale soil run off that occurs all too often at present.

On a different note 2016 marked an important point in the history of the Society's time at Shepton Mallet. Not only did the new Free School being constructed adjacent to Prestleigh rise from the ground, but some radical changes to the Showground layout were undertaken. In part these were as a result of the need to prepare for the move of the equine section to its new home but also reflected a realisation that the Showground had retained its current layout for 50 years. How many other things in life remain unchanged for that length of time?

It was reassuring that many of the changes were

so well received, in particular the move of the Village Green and related activities to the Main Square and the focus of the food area onto the old village green area. The introduction of both food halls here, as well as a large marquee providing live music and seating and a plentiful number of stands offering street food, delivered a festival type atmosphere to the area. Much of the credit for achieving this atmosphere must go to our President, Michael Eavis, a man who knows more about festivals than most. He was a tremendous help to the team in the office in pointing them to the relevant suppliers and bands who were able to help deliver this transformation. Even more pleasing was the universal approbation shown for these moves. It emphasised that, whilst we must not seek to fix things that are not broken, we should not be frightened of some gentle reassessment of the way in which shows are presented.

exit polls

Another example of this was the decision to spread our livestock showing classes over 4 days. The Livestock committees are to be congratulated for driving through this change, and particular thanks are due to all those exhibitors who supported the move. Again our exit polls show that this was certainly a big hit with the public and so we will continue to look to find ways to enhance our offering whilst ensuring ample support for our exhibitors.

I mentioned Michael Eavis earlier in this article. Michael proved to be a fully engaged and engaging President. A dairy farmer of considerable repute, he took a keen interest in all that he did but particularly enjoyed his time in the stock lines. As one of the most



Examining the hive in the Bee garden.



Pony Club games in the main ring.



A cut above in the Food & Drink area.



The Band of the Queen's Division.

recognised persons in the West Country he was permanently in demand for selfies and was genuinely interested in all those to whom he spoke. Having received his inspiration for Glastonbury from his trip to the Blues Festival held on the Showground in 1970 (an experiment never to be repeated by the Society after the mayhem that it left in its wake!) it was fitting that life should have moved full circle and that he should have found himself heading that same organisation some 46 years later.

thank the board

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the Board, the composition of which has remained unchanged this year, for continuing to provide consistent and incisive advice. Indeed this contribution is reflected in all of the committees that do so much to support the workings of the Society. A particular congratulation to board member Martin

Thatcher, who was awarded the Steven and Gill Bullock Award at the Nuffield Farming Conference. This award recognises those who, in the 10 years since completing a Nuffield scholarship, have made the best use of their learning to grow their business, develop their career and contribute to the industry. To those who have seen the way in which Martin has transformed his family business this comes as no surprise – well done Martin!

Both the Dairy Show, and the Dairy Industry Dinner that is held the night before, proved to be as popular as ever. If feedback from our exhibitors is anything to go by, the Dairy Show is increasingly seen as the premier dairy event in the country. The aim of Alan Lyons and his team is to continue to deliver a show focused entirely on the Dairy Industry, which is fitting since it is an industry inextricably linked to the South West.

This year we were delighted to be able to welcome our Vice Patron to the Show, and she enjoyed a comprehensive tour of the Showground, meeting a wide variety of stewards and visitors during the day. As ever she took a keen interest in all she saw and showed an incisive knowledge of the issues facing the dairy industry.

new accommodation

Away from the world of shows there has been considerable activity in other areas of the Society and these are reported elsewhere. But a special mention is due of the move, in November, of the staff from our offices to new accommodation in the units beneath the Grandstand. This has, I know, been a big upheaval and thanks are due to the staff for showing such fortitude and good humour about what has been a major upheaval. The good news is that they are now settling well into their new home and relishing the new open plan layout. The move opens the way for the old offices to be put to new uses and so, whilst at present the building feels somewhat forlorn, we look forward to seeing it rise, phoenix like, from the ashes to enjoy a new role in delivering excellence on the Showground.

As ever, none of this would be possible without the hard work of the team in the office under the leadership of Rupert Cox. During the year Rupert and his senior management team of Paul Hooper, Alan Lyons and David Stitch, have operated as a highly effective team in implementing the strategies identified by the board. The effective interaction between the volunteers that are the life blood of the Society and the permanent staff has been of enormous benefit to the Society – long may it continue.





Rupert Cox, Chief Executive

Chief Executive's report

Encouragement & i

Two years have now passed since I was honoured to take over the reins of the Royal Bath & West of England Society, and with it the responsibility of the country's last remaining four-day Royal show – The Royal Bath & West Show.

The more financially successful we are, the more we can invest in our charitable objectives...

Elsewhere in this Journal you will read a more detailed analysis of the 2016 Show, but at this juncture I have to thank everyone who made the Show one of the most successful in modern times. We did more and we did it so much better: more visitors; more and better quality trade stands; more and higher value sponsors; more entertainment, education and enjoyment – a great value day out.

The quality of our exhibitors and features continues to rise with more entries in the



The Great British Sheep Show.

British Cheese Awards and British Cider Championship; an international flavour to the competitive Sheep Shearing and Horse Shoeing sections; national competitions in both Poultry and the Texel Sheep Focus Show and our usual array of high quality equestrianism with qualifiers for Olympia and the Horse of the Year Show.

founding fathers

The theme of my report for this year however will focus on why we are here doing what we do, and to remind ourselves of our founding

fathers who set up the Society in 1777 for the encouragement and improvement of agriculture, manufacture, commerce and arts. Those key objectives remain the same today and have evolved into our charitable objectives as a registered charity.

our objectives

We deliver our objectives through education and knowledge transfer using what I regard as our "thread of learning."

We host a Field to Food Education Day for over a thousand 8-11 year olds from local



The Heavy Horse ladies cart class.



Chicken and Egg.

mprovement



Meet my friend the Alpaca.

primary schools where we educate them on the origin of their food, and build on the wonderful feature we present at the Show, "Farming for the Family." There is no doubt that we provide a whole range of additional learning opportunities at our Show and take seriously the unique responsibility that we have in bringing the producer and consumer closer together.

young people

We need to consider how we develop careers for young people in land-based industries and while farming may be the obvious career, we know that a whole range of job opportunities are available to young people in the food and

drink sector, equine, veterinary and estate management. How should the Society address this opportunity for the Next Generation?

There are opportunities for Research and Development in agri' science and innovation which is where I see the Society making real traction in 2017 as we start to create an Agri-tech and Food Innovation and Training Centre on the Showground and work with



Mike Lyons, Martin Clunes and Rupert Cox discuss the livestock parade.

partners from further and higher education, and organisations such as Innovation for Agriculture (IfA) of which we are active partners. Elsewhere in the Journal you can read of their work through the CEO, David Gardner.

add value

Finally, we must not forget to add value to our farmers. We do this in a variety of ways, not least through IfA that provides a platform for peer to peer knowledge transfer, and other farm or industry visits that we host or facilitate. Our specialist Shows, The Dairy Show and Grassland UK, are wonderful examples of the Society doing what it did way back in 1777 – introducing farmers to the very latest innovation and technology to help them become even more efficient while giving them a platform to meet others and share experiences. Robotics, genetics, diets and animal welfare are common issues for the farming community with the Society bringing them all together in one place for the best Dairy Show in the country.

continued overleaf



The Society's business model is quite simple. The more financially successful we are, the more we can invest in our charitable objectives with the following priorities helping us make those investments:

- 1 Education of young people
- 2 Industry knowledge transfer & innovation
- 3 Awards & Scholarships
- 4 Environmental Projects

Below are set out some of the people or projects that our Charity Committee have supported during 2016.

- The West Country Dairy Awards
- The Environmental Youth Awards
- Prince of Wales Community Awards
- The Golden Shears World Council
- Field to Food Education day
- The Royal Bath & West Art Scholarship
- The Royal Bath & West Long Service Awards
- The Academy of Cheese
- The Dairy Industry Vet of the Future Awards
- Travel scholarships for 2 Next Generation members to attend the RASC Conference
- Higher Education bursaries for 2 beneficiaries
- School bursaries 6 beneficiaries, to help them fund start-up costs
- The Hills to Levels project in response to the 2013 and 2014 Somerset floods
- Innovation for Agriculture (IfA), where our Chairman is a Trustee



Have a go at Milking in the Farming for the Family.



Lucy West with a White Faced Dartmoor.

While not being a fan of "lists" I am keen to demonstrate that the Society's work is not just about hosting the best agricultural show in the country, but supporting the agriculturally focused objectives that have stood us in good stead since 1777 – the encouragement and improvement of agriculture, manufacture, commerce and art.

2017 promises to be a very exciting year for the Society as we look forward to bringing forward some innovative ideas and projects that will demonstrate even further our charitable values, and I can't wait to get started!

dedicated staff

In closing, it would remiss of me not to thank my dedicated staff who have to endure the avalanche of another new idea or plan from their Chief Executive and where we are starting to get used to not having "normal" in our vocabulary. The biggest change for them at the end of 2016 is a move of office to refurbished offices under the Grandstand and to clear out the contents of the existing office as we make way for delivering some of the charitable and educational aspirations mentioned earlier in my report. To some this is a most liberating experience, to others it is a bit scary – but we will do it together as the Bath & West Team.



An exhibit in the FSB small business exhibition.



The Rt Hon Lord King the Hon. Cider Maker.



Rupert Cox, Chief Executive

The Society was well represented in Singapore for the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth Conference, particularly by our 'Next Generation', which goes from strength to strength.



The Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth (RASC) celebrated its 60th Anniversary in style with a star-studded biennial Conference in Singapore at the end of October 2016 that focused on "bridging the urban - rural divide" across the Commonwealth.

...encourages the under 40s to take an active part in agricultural societies.

The President, Her Royal Highness, the Princess Royal was in attendance for the entire event not just offering a key note speech at the Opening Ceremony, but contributing from the floor of the conference to a number of

debates. Her Royal Highness was joined at the opening ceremony by the Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Baroness Scotland of Asthal, together with Government Ministers of Singapore.

Next Generation

The Royal Bath & West Society was well represented being one of eight UK Royal Societies to send a delegation. Past Chairman of the Royal Bath & West and Trustee of the RASC, Edwin White led a group of five Next Generation members, together with the Chief Executive, Rupert Cox. The Society has a long history of supporting the RASC and providing grant funding to young people wishing to be part of the Next Generation – a programme that encourages the under 40s to take an active part in agricultural societies. Previous recipients of Society grants, Emily Craven and Will Hyde played active roles in the NG Conference that preceded the main event proving to the successful 2016 beneficiaries of Lindsey Carnell, Will Streatfeild and James Cox what a great opportunity the RASC provides young people to support Commonwealth agricultural activities.

The Royal Bath & West will continue to play an active part in the work of the RASC and to help it evolve into a most relevant organisation promoting agriculture and developing rural economies across the Commonwealth. The Charity Committee of the Society has resolved to continue to fund young people to attend the RASC's Next Generation conference as part of our own succession planning as we develop a strategy for bringing forward new stewards, trustees and committee members.

Commenting on their time at the Conference...

B&W team member James Cox...

"It's safe to say my trip to Singapore for the Commonwealth Agriculture Conference was the most incredible experience of my life, not only learning a huge amount through the seminars but also from the new friends I made from across the Commonwealth.

I'm looking forward to implementing some of the ideas I gained while in Singapore to the Royal Bath & West."

RBW Society delegate Will Hyde...

The RASC recognised the need to embrace the younger generation in 2004 and since then the concept has gone from strength to strength; this year in Singapore of the 250 attendees 65 were Next Generation delegates representing 15 different countries from across the Commonwealth, demonstrating a huge range of culture and diversity.

"It was a packed five days, full of meeting old friends and new, networking, learning, knowledge transfer and discussions around our common ground – agricultural shows. The evenings were sociable and showcased everything Singapore had to offer, our hosts had everything organised to a tee."



The Royal Bath & West delegation at the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth conference, Will Streatfeild, Emily Craven, James Cox, Rupert Cox, Lindsey Carnell and Will Hyde.



Alan Lyons, Head of Shows.

Royal Bath & West Show 2016

The 2016 Royal Bath & West Show lived up to its billing of showcasing The Great British Festival of Agriculture, Entertainment, Food & Drink.

The new music area with the help of our incredible president Michael Eavis was a great success...

The transformational new layout of the Show went down a storm with visitors and traders hailing it as one of the best Shows for many years.

tremendous feedback

Chief Executive Rupert Cox, said: "This year's Show has been fantastic, the new layout has had tremendous feedback from visitors and traders and the Show had a real buzz about it. The new music area with the help of our incredible president Michael Eavis was a great success with people chilling out, consuming the best of British Food from the array of food on offer in the new food and drink area"

"We embraced our heritage over four days with the finest Livestock in the Country, an



A showman's engine in the Vintage vehicles.

array of agricultural equipment on show and an excellent Main Ring display by the team at Redlynch Agriculture"

"I would to thank all the volunteers, the exhibitors, and sponsors whose hard work and dedication have made the Show such a success."

Alan Lyons, Head of Shows, said: "It has been a great four days and I am pleased that everybody bought into the concept



Rupert Cox with Viscountess & Viscount Weymouth with the Chief Executive of Longleat Bob Montgomery.



Best British Cheesemonger - Mihaela Mercasi, House of Bruar.



Doing my exercises on the Main Lawn.



Pygmy Goat in Farming for the Family.



The Ambling Band.

of the change in layout, it seems to have been a good formula and there has been a tremendous atmosphere around the whole Show.

a fantastic sight

Having the livestock here on the Saturday of the Show was excellent and a fantastic sight to see, I would like to thank all the livestock exhibitors for exhibiting at the Show and all



Parade of Hounds.

their support with the new changes."

This year's President Michael Eavis shook hundreds of hands, as he toured trade stands, cattle lines, attended receptions and presented awards across all four days of the Show.

He said "I had a great four days at the Show and have been coming to the Show since I was a child, I really enjoyed meeting the

people who put the Show together and meeting so many visitors as I toured the Show. There were so many highlights, but I thoroughly enjoyed the new music area with great bands and also all the fantastic Livestock."

hard working

Farmer's wife Gillian Dossou scooped the Show's Farm Woman of the Year Award.



continued from previous page

Mary James MBE said “All of the nominated entrants are extremely hard working and inspirational women. They are absolute ambassadors for farming and the glue that holds communities together, so choosing a winner was extremely hard.”

The new Team Challenge on Wednesday consisted of three elements: stock judging, cattle preparation and showmanship which was won by The British Blue Cattle Society.

Mortimers Farm Ltd took the Beef Pairs Interbreed Championships for the Overall Champion Pair of Beef Animals.

The Texel Focus Show Champion went to David Bradley from Drayton Farm Partnership.

The In-Hand Cuddy Championship on Friday was full of pure excellence and class with the championship going to part bred Welsh “Shildons Excaliblr”, bred by Mrs V Rudd and exhibited by Mr Mark Reeves.



Concentration during preparation for the team challenge.



A busy avenue.



Live music in the Big Top.



The Ambling Band take a break.



Getting the point in the Sports Village.



Liz Truss MP, The President and Rebecca Pow MP in the British Cheese Awards.

a thousand cheeses

The British Cheese Awards featured just short of a thousand cheeses from across the country. The Supreme Champion went to Cropwell Bishop Creamery Shropshire Blue from Nottingham and Reserve to St Thom by Lightwood Cheese Ltd.

Alan Berry who makes cider at Templecombe, took home the Supreme British Cider Championships with his Blackmore Vale Medium Cider. The Reserve went to Kilmejan cider from Northern Ireland. They beat more than 500 other ciders to the blue riband of cider competitions on Orchards and Cider.

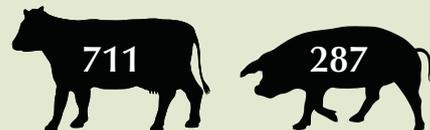
A sweet cider produced by Rich's Cider of Watchfield near Highbridge was voted "The People's Choice" by the hundreds of people who took part in the final judge-off for this year's competition in the Orchards and Cider marquee at the Royal Bath & West Show on Saturday.

working together

The Prince of Wales Award went to West Somerset Flood Group. The group is made up of parish and town councils who are working together and with their communities to reduce flooding in West Somerset. The group operates with no funding (any grants obtained go to member communities) and members' time and work is freely given.

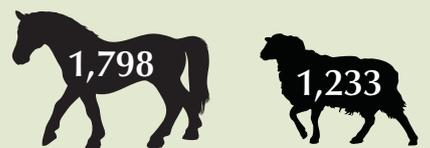
**Next year's show takes place –
31st May to 3rd June 2017**

2016 entries



Cattle

Pigs



Horse & Ponies

Sheep



Poultry & Eggs

Show Jumping



Shoeing & Iron

Bees & Honey



Cheese

Cider



Art

Floral Art

The sheer number and the variety of competitive entries are what makes the Royal Bath & West Show so special.

As these figures demonstrate there is no shortage of produce and animals of all shapes and sizes vying for glory over the four days. Elaborately feathered cockerels have their place, alpacas are now established and horses have their own area but it is the traditional farm animals that are still out in force and maintain the Show's reputation as the centre of agricultural excellence.



Emily Massey, Principal, The Mendip School.
www.themendipschool.co.uk



Breaking ground at the site for the Mendip School.

The Mendip School



The Mendip School opened for its second year in its new purpose built school on Monday 19th September.

...committed to and passionate about the learning and progress.

We are committed to and passionate about the learning and progress of all our pupils. Staff and governors have high aspirations for our children and we aim to provide a high quality, relevant and balanced education for all that focuses on individual, personal and academic achievement. Students are taught in small groups, usually with more than one member of staff in attendance.



There is a happy and positive atmosphere in which children can fulfil their potential and grow in self-confidence with respect for the people and environment around them.

Through strong partnerships with parents and collaboration with a range of other agencies the school offers a caring and friendly learning environment in which pupils will make outstanding progress. The School caters for children from 4 through to 19 with a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum

Disorders (ASD) and Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN).

We recognise the importance of a curriculum highly enriched with community access, real-life learning and life skills. We offer a range of qualifications including GCSE, Entry Level and Duke of Edinburgh.

The School has many facilities that we would like to share with our community. Please get in touch with the school office if you would like to find out more.



Champions of the Royal Bath & West Show

Supreme Texel Sheep & Sheep Interbreed Champion

Exhibitor: David Bradley-Farmer

How long have you been showing? I have been showing sheep for myself for 5 years at the Bath & West Show. Winning the Texel championship for the last 4 years and 2 years winning champion and reserve.

Why do you do it? Some people do it for enjoyment, but I am a great believer in showing as my shop window for selling animals from my flock to potential customers.

Explain what it takes to prepare for a show.

It is not just a thought of entering a show and turning up. My planning for shows goes back around 6 or 7 months before the show. Picking your potential show sheep feeding them appropriately and shearing them at the correct time and people who tell you at a show they don't feed there are telling porkies. Sheep have to be fed to win the big shows, but fed not stuffed is a big difference and that separates the top stockman from the others.

Can you share any secrets or tips?

I can't share all. But a few key tips are shearing your sheep at the correct time of year for your certain breed. The best coat to show a Texel in, is 6 to 8 weeks from shearing to get the correct length on the coat. Also it is important to get your sheep fit not fat. But there are many different things that different stockmen do.

Describe what it felt like to win.

It was amazing I had won the Texel championship for the past 4 years and the year before was whiskers away from winning the interbreed, but this year I had high hopes for the gimmer and she delivered, the judge said to me as soon as he saw her she was an outright winner and she stood out so far in front of her opposition. Which was such fantastic comments from a judge at a show as big as Bath & West. It would have been fantastic to try and retain it, but we will be giving it a miss next year as I have been asked to judge the Texel classes which is such a great privileged for me at just being the age of 22.



British Blue Championship

Cromwell Iron Man Exhibitor: EC Haste

How long have you been showing? My family started showing in 1986, I was 9 and involved from the start. We did have a break from the Bath & West for 16 years.

Why do you do it? We like to promote the breed and our herd – we also thoroughly enjoy the shows.

Explain what it takes to prepare for a show.

Preparation takes months of feeding and preparing... years really – selecting the right bulls to go with the right cows!

Can you share any secrets or tips?

If you do well, don't celebrate as much as I do!

Describe what it felt like to win.

As you can see from the photo it was pure joy to win for me and Barnaby. It's an honour to win a Royal show. We are looking forward to the 2017 show.

continued overleaf

Cuddy Qualifier Winner

Exhibitor: Mark Reeves

How long have you been showing? We have been exhibiting for over 20 years from our base Cuddington Stud and showed our first animal in 2006 Cuddington Catwalk.

Why do you do it? We love training horses and ponies for the show ring and we have always thought showing was the shop window for the best breed and type of animals. It is important to exhibit top quality stock to show the hard work of the breeders involved.

Explain what it takes to prepare for a show.

Preparing for the Show is a lot of hard work with numerous 'boxes to tick' to give us the best chance of having a successful show. You need a happy and healthy animal who is keen to do the job which helps us get the best out of them on the day.

Can you share any secrets or tips?

Top tip is that first impressions really do count. Giving the judge a beautiful picture to look at right from the start is hugely important to us. For both in hand and ridden a relaxed, flowing loose walk helps show your animal to its maximum potential.



Describe what it felt like to win.

Winning the Cuddy Qualifier last year was without doubt the highlight of our showing career to date. Qualifying for the prestigious Cuddy from among so many top class animals at the Royal Bath & West Show was truly incredible and a memory we will keep with us for ever.



Supreme Champion Shropshire Blue

Exhibitor: Cropwell Bishop Creamery

How long have you been showing? The Skales family has been in the cheese business for over 160 years and I'm sure we have been showing cheese for most of that time! Serendipitously, the Matthews & Skales Cup for Supreme Champion which we received at the 2016 show, was donated to the show society some 70 years ago by my grandfather, Frank Skales, making it an extra special trophy to win.

Why do you do it? We're very proud of the traditional methods we still use in the creamery where much of the work is still done by hand. We really do believe it makes the best cheese and by exhibiting at a show we can showcase how fantastic our products are. It's also great to see what everyone else is up to and how their cheese is improving and catch up with others in the cheese industry.

Explain what it takes to prepare for a show.

Every cheese we make is carefully matured

and individually graded. For a show we obviously look for the best of the best, and myself and Howard in the creamery will pick out the perfect cheese to be entered in a competition.

Can you share any secrets or tips?

Most good cheese judges will have a good idea of which cheese is which even though they aren't labelled, so it often comes down to individual preference on what they like in a cheese – so we try not to get too hung up on the results – but of course it's great to win!

Describe what it felt like to win.

Winning Supreme Champion for our Shropshire Blue and beating off competition from over 900 other cheeses was fantastic. It means such a lot to us as a family and also to all of the team that work at the Creamery. We think our cheese is wonderful, but to get it recognised in this way by the industry is really special.

Art – Sculptor Champion

'All Ears' – Head of a Hare
Exhibitor: Jane Shaw

How long have you been showing? I have only been exhibiting and selling my work over the last 2 years as I took up sculpting later in life.

Why do you do it? My love of sculpture and capturing the moment and essence of a piece.

Explain what it takes to prepare for a show.

Focus and passion.

Can you share any secrets or tips?

Don't focus on the outcome, just focus on the process.

Describe what it felt like to win.

Complete shock – for the first year, and then when I won again 2nd year in a row, it was a complete honour.



Art – Painting Champion

Table Conversation

Exhibitor: Caroline Aylward

How long have you been showing? I have been painting for the last three years and 2016 was my second year exhibiting at the Royal Bath & West Show.

Why do you do it? I wanted to get out there and get my career started as an artist and to have a new challenge. I wanted to establish myself and show and sell my work.

Explain what it takes to prepare for a show.

I go through all my available paintings and carefully select the works that I feel would suit the exhibition and do best.

Can you share any secrets or tips?

I had always wanted to paint, but I did not have the confidence to do it before. Now I have started I would encourage everyone to have a go! The more you do it the more success you have – it is a learning curve with eureka moments along the way, which are so rewarding.

Describe what it felt like to win.

When I received the call telling me I had won I was out walking my dog on Dartmoor and it was just thrilling! I was absolutely delighted – so excited that I danced all the way home! I invested my prize money in taking a drawing course in London.





Julie Kitching, Shows Marketing Manager.



The meat cutting demonstration by Lloyd Tucker.

Inaugural Field to Learning Day

The inaugural Field to Food Learning Day held at The Bath & West Showground on 13 April was a great success with over 1,000 school children aged 7-11 attending.

...producing quality products for the consumer is key...

The Field to Food Day was all about educating the next generation about agriculture and food production. The day has evolved from the foundations of the Royal Bath & West of



Sheep scanning being explained.

England Society's charitable core remits of educating the public about agriculture.

taste the milk

The event focused on promoting to the next generation the producer to consumer relationship, with children being able to speak to a dairy farmer and taste the milk that has been produced by that very farmer. Within agriculture producing quality products for the consumer is key and there is a renaissance of purchasing direct from the producer at the farm door rather than a

convenience store with traceability and food miles at the forefront of the consumers mind.

Rupert Cox CEO said "The event was a great success and the Society is thrilled to see so many children having a great day out learning about food production and agriculture, these children are the next generation and it is vital we educate where their food is sourced from. I hope many children going away today will have learnt about the opportunities in agriculture and who knows they may go onto work in the industry.



The Combine being explained.

Food

a great success

back to our roots

For The Bath & West of England Society we have gone back to our roots and core remits with the focus on local food & drink being at the heart of what we do. This new event is the beginning of a new era for the Charity

as it brings education and learning to the Showground with youngsters experiencing how agriculture plays an important role in daily life. It is vital that as the world population increases and food production methods change, the next generation needs to understand not just how important good food is to their own health, but to the health of the planet, and I believe our Field to Food event goes some way to achieving that."

Leigh-on-Mendip First School teacher, Louisa Phillips said...

"This has been a great day out for children with interactive features and great hands on opportunities for the children. It is really important for them to learn about where their food comes from. They really enjoyed seeing the machinery and animals"



Schools involved 2016:

- Bishop Henderson C of EVC Primary School
- Bruton Primary School
- Castle Cary Community Primary School
- Charlton Mackrell Primary School
- Countess Gytha Primary School
- Coxley Primary School
- Croscombe C of E Primary School
- Ditcheat Primary School
- Keinton Mandeville Primary School
- Leigh-on-Mendip First School
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Primary School
- North Cadbury C of E Primary School
- St Mary's C of E Primary School
- Stoke St Michael Primary School
- Upton Noble C of EVC Primary School
- West Pennard C of E Primary School

Plans for an event in 2017 are underway with invitations being sent to over 1,200 children.

2016 FIELD TO FOOD LEARNING DAY

The Royal Bath & West of England Society held the inaugural Field to Food Learning Day at The Bath & West Showground on 13 April 2016. Here are some stats, facts & figures from the debut of this fantastic event!

CHILDREN 1000 CHILDREN ATTENDED FROM 17 SCHOOLS	LOCAL FOCUS THE SCHOOLS WERE WITHIN A 15KM RADIUS OF THE SHOWGROUND
GROWN UPS OVER 200 VOLUNTEERS MADE IT POSSIBLE	IN DEMAND ALL SPACES SNAPPED UP IN LESS THAN 48 HOURS
INTERACTIVE OVER 20 ACTIVITIES INCLUDING SHEEP SHEARING, CHEESE TASTING, COOKERY DEMOS & MUCH MORE	EDUCATIONAL DESIGNED TO LINK WITH THE KEY STAGE CURRICULUM. THANKS TO FACE
THIRSTY WORK! OVER 1000 BOTTLES OF WATER	ENCORE! WILL RETURN ON 22 MARCH 2017



Alan Lyons, Head of Shows.

Sometimes we get it wrong but we always try to put it right. Alan Lyons explains how visitors to the Show on Saturday will see just as much livestock as those who come on the Wednesday.

Four fantastic days of... Superb L



For some reason lost in the mists of time the Royal Bath & West Show we have always allowed the majority of the livestock leave the Showground on the Friday evening with still the Saturday and the biggest attended day left bereft of livestock.

“Meet the Farm Animals” morphed into the now flagship section “Farming for the Family” located rightly in the centre of the Showground and we experienced an Alpaca explosion with one year an entry of 400 resulted in a separate marquee.

Yet again we were left without decent numbers of livestock. The ever increasing popularity of Rare Breeds provided the answer for a short time, but TB affected cattle numbers and the willingness of exhibitors to wish to enter competitive classes. However

...a four day programme of judging was put together.

Originally the empty cattle sheds were partially filled with Donkeys, Goats or Alpacas with a token group of cattle left in one corner. And for a number of years a very successful section headed up by Allen Cotton entitled “Meet the Farm Animals” provided the need for cattle, sheep and pigs to provide an informative and educational display.

Alpaca explosion

The Donkeys were moved to the Equine section and did not survive many years and the Goats migrated to their own marquee.



Wool on the Hoof champion 2016.

livestock



Look right.

Sheep numbers were good and regularly passed the 100 entry mark. But the irony was that many of the established “native breeds” showing on the first three days of Show were actually classed as “Rare or Minority” by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust.

By the end of the summer 2015 complaints from the public regarding the poor display of stock has grown and more disturbingly we had farmers visiting the Show on the Saturday and leaving with a very negative impression of the Show.



Tug O War Champions.

Tug O War

So after much discussion a meeting was held with the various livestock committees and a four day programme of judging was put together. The decision was not taken lightly as this would add an extra day for the exhibitors and their livestock and this would have a cost implication for the exhibitors. We were also aware that the exhibitors did not want to sit around for three days waiting for their judging, so we had to carefully plan the judging and we reinstated the Livestock Exhibitors Tug O War. This proved very popular; with Farrier's retreating rapidly back to the forge or the bar! and a victory for “Hastes Henchmen.”



Team challenge.



The Devons line up.

selling point

The four days of Livestock was a monumental change and due to the fantastic loyal and generous exhibitors it happened. A very interesting result was the uplift in Livestock Sponsorship, the fact that the animals were here all 4 days did mean that sponsors had branding across all four days of the Show which I believe is a huge selling point. We did not get everything right and have already made changes for 2017 and will create more opportunities to show and win, not just in your respective breed classes but in “open” classes later in the four days.

We are committed to providing the very best facilities for the livestock, source the best judges, stewards and use the event to provide public platform to promote and support livestock exhibitors and breeders across all four days of the Royal Bath & West Show in 2017 and beyond.





David Gardner, Chief Executive of Innovation for Agriculture, looks at soil enrichment and adopting new crops as ways of promoting new innovations in farming.

New Science &



The Royal Bath & West of England Society is part of the Innovation for Agriculture initiative. Innovation for Agriculture is a consortium of 15 English Agricultural Societies that have come together to help farmers improve their technical performance.

The Societies are well placed to contribute towards meeting this challenge.

The performance of farms in England has not improved as fast as other industrial nations over the last 30 years and we are suffering from a yield plateau in many of our crops. A lack of applied research and effective knowledge transfer is now considered to be the underlying cause of this problem. Our Government has put significant investment into establishing a number of applied research centres as part of its Agri-tech strategy but have not addressed the challenge of improving knowledge transfer. The Societies are well placed to contribute towards meeting this challenge. We have an excellent network that includes our show grounds, our members and many of the country's 'Champion farmers'. We also enjoy goodwill and trust within the farming community.



Farm visit to Clive Bailey's farm near Lichfield in Staffordshire. Clive is our Soil Farmer of the Year.

Innovation for Agriculture is still in its infancy but has established two areas of technical expertise covering Precision Livestock Farming and Soil Organic Matter.

emerging technology

Precision Livestock farming is an emerging technology that involves the use of sensors on, in and near animals. Temperature sensors, movement sensors and thermal cameras are amongst the sensors used to identify what animals are doing and how they are feeling. They can be used to identify oestrus in cows, fever in animals and distress in poultry houses. Innovation for Agriculture is leading a €2M EU project

called 4D4F (Data driven dairy decisions for farmers) to create a network across Europe to encourage the uptake and development of these technologies. Visit www.4D4F.eu to get involved.



major concern

Soil Organic Matter has become a major concern for farmers over the last few years. The fertility of our soils has declined and we need to learn how to regenerate our soils on a landscape scale. New farming practices are emerging involving the use of

Innovation

direct drills, cover crops and spring crops to improve the soil. Some arable farmers are even re-introducing livestock. Innovation for Agriculture offers a workshop called 'Enrich Your Soils' that explains to farmers what soil organic matter is, why it is important and how farmers can improve it. These have been well received and feedback has been outstanding. Innovation for Agriculture is also part of the Maize Charter initiative that the 'Bath & West' are promoting across the South West. This programme promotes the responsible growing of this late harvested crop and seeks to generate a positive view of the crop amongst the public.

considerable success

Innovation for Agriculture has enjoyed considerable success to date. Over 100 farmer events have been held in the last 2 and a half years, funds have been raised, a European project has been won, networks have been created, the team has been developed and the future looks bright. Funding has recently been secured to deliver a programme on the reduction of antibiotics and further areas of technical activity have been identified with funding being pursued to bring them to life. We look forward to reporting further progress in the future.



Prince's Countryside trust event: Sheep at Tim White's.



Prince's Countryside trust event: Broilers at David Speller's.



Discussing precision farming techniques in relation to grazing cows.



Considering soil management options for the coming season.

If you would like to know more about Innovation for Agriculture or would like to get involved please contact David Gardner at davidg@innovationforagriculture.org.uk or 0044 (0) 7786 272221.

Devon County Agricultural Association
 Driffield Agricultural Society
 East of England Agricultural Society
 Lincolnshire Agricultural Society
 Newark & Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society
 Newbury & District Agricultural Society
 South of England Agricultural Society
 Staffordshire & Birmingham Agricultural Society



Registered Charity No 1155563

Suffolk Agricultural Association
 Surrey County Agricultural Society
 The Royal Agricultural Society of England
 The Royal Bath & West of England Society
 The Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association
 The Three Counties Agricultural Society
 Westmorland County Agricultural Society

Innovation for Agriculture is a new initiative from the English Agricultural Societies to bring you the latest developments in New Science & Technology



Catherine Page, Hills to Levels Project Co-ordinator, reviews what is being done to prevent flooding in Somerset.



Hills to Levels Project

The devastating Somerset floods of 2014 raised many questions amongst locals and onlookers alike. The Somerset Flood Action Plan laid out a 20 year strategy for tackling the issues by looking not just at the Somerset Levels where the water ends up but also at the catchment where the water comes from.

...born out of a need to have a catchment based approach to flood management...

The Hills to Levels project was born out of a need to have a catchment based approach to flood management, not just focusing on the flood plains. Working in partnership with the Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group South West (FWAG SW), Somerset Wildlife Trust and the RSPB, The Society set about raising funds for a project that supported farmers to manage their land differently in an effort to prevent possible further flooding.

Now into the last part of its second year, Hills to Levels, funded by players of People's Postcode Lottery seeks to highlight the fact that how water is managed in the hills has a huge effect on the



Grants enabled Geoff Miller of Millwood Farm to put up stock fencing while the hedgerows recovered from flood damage (pictured, with dog Jacko).

floodplain downstream. Its vision was not just to join up the thinking on water management between the upper and lower catchments, but also to help communities affected by flooding connect with those outside the floodplain areas where the water comes from.

Ben Thorne, from FWAG SW explains: "Work has been carried out with over 150 farmers and landowners in the floodplains of the Levels and Moors to help build resilience into their farming systems when faced with flooding and to look at how water can be better managed on the floodplain using natural processes. In addition, over 669 farmers have been visited to talk

about how simple measures can be employed to 'slow the flow' of water off the hills. This advisory work has been able to draw in additional capital funding through the Somerset Rivers Authority to construct a further 130 run-off attenuation features across the catchment."

exciting projects

"It's been encouraging to see so much interest in the Hills to Levels Grants," said Jack Buckingham, Lower Catchment Farm Adviser



for the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG). "And we have seen some exciting projects come through which will help farming on the Levels in the future."

Grants have been awarded for work such as replacing blocked or broken culverts, resurfacing damaged gateways, installing cattle drinking bays and restoring some badly-rutted droves. All of these grant-funded improvements will help farmers to both access and manage their land more easily and be able to cope better with a changing climate.

"We have had a busy summer meeting many landowners," said Loren Eldred, Conservation Officer – Wetland Farm Advisor for the Somerset Wildlife Trust. "And there have been some great opportunities to use the Hills to Levels grants to help farming become more resilient on the Somerset Levels. Communities have also embraced the concept of working together to find solutions to flood management in their locality."

Colin Townsend, who applied for grant funding for drove improvement on behalf of Brent Knoll Parish council explained: "Brent Knoll Parish Council are pleased to be associated with the forthcoming work to Broad Brent and Crooked Lane Drove. The process has been an example of how The Royal Bath & West of England Society, Landowners, Farmers, and Axe Brue Internal Drainage Board can all work together. The completed project will provide adequate drainage, better access and a positive outcome for all involved."

talks and events

Throughout 2016 the Community Engagement team have been organising talks and events whilst taking our bright green gazebo and

teardrop banners to street fairs around the County, speaking to over 2,400 people.

Steve Mewes, RSPB Community Outreach Officer for the Hills to Levels project said: "The public feedback has been invaluable and from the 500 responses received, people's ideas for a brighter future for Somerset are topped by better water management (29%), greater wildlife conservation (18%) and more consistent funding issues (9%). The top three most popular words when people think about the Levels and Moors are Wildlife, Birds and perhaps not surprisingly Water. Nature reserves are people's most favourite part topping even Glastonbury Tor and Burrow Mump. And of course, none of this could have been achieved without an active volunteer team."

younger audience

Somerset Wildlife Trust has taken the opportunity to engage with a younger audience about water management across the county. Over 500 people have been engaged with through presence at a number of events ranging from Somerfest to local Wildlife Watch clubs; where a large water model has been used to demonstrate how water is managed across the Levels, as well as highlighting some of the wildlife which use the county's rivers and ditches. Matthew Marshall, SWT explains: "Informing the younger generation of farmers "As well as workshops focused on the wider community SWT has been working with agriculture students from Bridgwater College to look at issues faced by farmers on the levels and Moors and how management in the upper catchment impacts these areas."

Twenty students and lecturers from the college visited Southlake Moor and Burrow Mump with



Grants enabled Sandra May (pictured), who farms Beech Tree Farm with son Nick, to carry out repairs to a drove enabling land access.

Somerset Wildlife Trust and Natural England to understand more about how farming and conservation work together on the Levels and Moors. Daniel Rood, Lecturer in Agriculture, Food & Land Management said "Enabling the students to see first-hand the areas affected by flooding and the different farming systems in the area has broadened their minds on the issues of land management."

As the project moves into the its last stages, The Society can reflect on the fact that its involvement with Hills to Levels has helped bring the concept of natural flood management and catchment based flood management to the forefront of people's minds, and started a process which should ensure that Somerset is better equipped in the future to deal with any unmanageable flooding.



Slough Court Farm's Anthony Gothard (pictured with son Harry, and Simba the dog), received grants to repair 3 damaged culverts to improve water flow.



Volunteers Sheila and Nick Frost with Angus the Wolfhound.

'We've been delighted to meet so many people who so obviously love their Somerset; there is a real enthusiasm to understand the flooding issues and strong support for any project which improves our flood resilience.' Nick Frost, volunteer.



The chance discovery of a piece of Georgian silver has revealed an extraordinary chapter in the Society's history that we can be mightily proud of today explains **Anthony Gibson**.

How we ploughed

Last September, the Society's Secretary, Paul Hooper, received an email from a television producer in Toronto called Sheila Hockin.

...as the saying goes, thereby hangs a tale!

Sheila's mother had died the previous year and, in sorting out her effects, the family had been intrigued to discover a Georgian silver fruit basket, with the following inscription:

*"The Bath & West of England Society
to*

Lewen Tugwell Esq.

*For the Invention of the Beverstone Plough
and*

*For Publicly Ploughing with the same
drawn by one horse only*

*An Acre of a 2 years Ley 4 1/2 inches deep
in 4 hours and 35 minutes*

*Awarded at the Annual Meeting
1808"*

Mrs Hockin wondered if the Society might like to acquire it, and whilst no decision had been made on that at the time of writing, it would be good to think that it might be possible. But in the inquiries that I made after Paul had copied me the email, it soon became apparent that, as the saying goes, thereby hangs a tale!

improving spirit

Lewen Tugwell farmed at Beverstone, just to the west of Tetbury. He was one of the leading lights of the early Bath & West and, dissatisfied with the mostly rather clumsy ploughs available at that time, and inspired by the improving spirit of the age, he had taken it upon himself to design a lighter, more manoeuvrable plough, complete with guide-wheel, to break up the Cotswold brash on which he farmed.

That was in the mid 1780s. By the time



the Bath & West decided to stage one of its regular ploughing competitions in south Gloucestershire some 20 years later, almost every farmer in the area was using the "Beverstone Plough", as it had become known. This particular contest was at Hunter's Hall, to the west of Tetbury, on 10 May 1808. Only three teams turned up, all using the Beverstone plough. The winner, who rejoiced in the name of Mr Drinkwater Hayward from just down the hill at Frocester, ploughed his half acre of two year clover ley, using "two small oxen of a mixed breed" in three hours 14 minutes – 46 minutes longer than it had taken the runner-up, who had two horses as the motive power.

achievement

But it was the achievement of the third-placed ploughman, in completing the work in 3 hours 17 minutes using just one horse that attracted the most attention – and controversy. A group of the farmers who'd turned up to watch the contest were not convinced. For the work to have been done that quickly by just one horse, it must be shoddy, they argued. Lewen Tugwell, who had been watching his ploughs being put through their paces, was indignant – and also, one suspects, a bit of an opportunist.

He promptly wagered the sceptics 20 guineas – £1,750 at 2016 values – that one

our own furrow

of his ploughs, drawn by a single horse, could plough a full acre of two year clover ley on this self-same farm to a depth of 4 and a half inches in less than five hours. The bet was eagerly taken, and a date fixed for the attempt a fortnight later. Now, as Volume XII of the Society's Letters and Papers makes clear, Tugwell knew perfectly well that he was onto a winner. Not only had he managed this feat himself, some 20 years previously, but he had also noticed that the harness used in the contest had not been properly attached. Put that right, and the work could easily be accomplished.

umpires

And so it proved. In front of a great crowd of farmers, with three prominent local landowners appointed as umpires to see fair play, Tugwell's Beverstone plough, drawn by a single horse, completed the task in 4 hours 35 minutes. Not surprisingly, the losers were unhappy. Foul, they cried, the plough hasn't gone in to the requisite depth of 4 and a half inches. We demand an inquiry!

A protracted dispute ensued, in which the Society requested detailed statements from the three umpires. Eventually, it was settled, emphatically in Tugwell's favour. Whilst only one of the umpires had bothered to measure the depth, all were unanimous in their praise for the quality of the work. A potential smear on the reputation, not just of Lewen Tugwell, but of the Society itself, had been triumphantly swept aside.

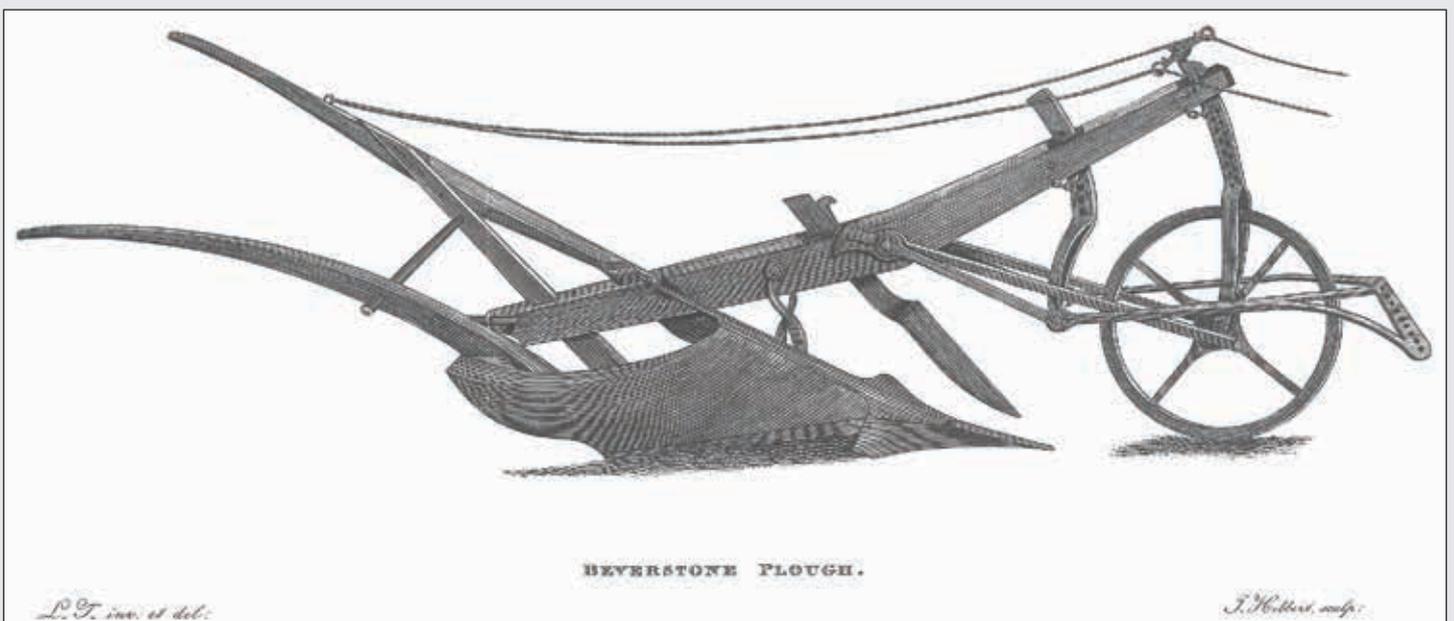
20 guineas

The Committee set up to resolve the dispute was so delighted with the outcome that it recommended that Tugwell be presented with "a piece of plate value 20 guineas with an inscription expressive of the high sense which they entertain of his ingenuity in the invention of the Beverstone plough." In addition, Thomas Pearce, the ploughman, was to get a silver cup value 4 guineas, and even the boy who led the horse, John Perrott, was rewarded with "a coat of serviceable British wool with a set of the Society's new buttons."

great blessing

Why did all this matter? Well, thanks not least to the influence of John Billingsley, the Bath & West had been concerned, since its foundation in 1777, with "the great waste of strength in the operation of ploughing." Horses especially were expensive to keep, and if ploughs could be designed requiring less horsepower to do the same amount of work, it would indeed be a great blessing. Of course, even greater savings could be made if, like Mr Drinkwater Harding, you used grass-fed oxen to pull the plough, rather than oat-fed horses. But thereby hangs another tale, of which more in a future Journal maybe.

In the meantime, let us hope that the funds can be raised to bring Lewen Tugwell's Georgian silver fruit basket back from Canada, celebrating as it does both a remarkable man, and what must surely have been one of the Bath & West's most practical contributions to the development of agriculture.



Stewards Q&A

Stewards form the backbone of the main show and some have been coming for several decades to give freely of their time.

We have asked some of them to explain what they do.



JONATHAN BAKER
FICFOR, CENV, M.ARBOR.A

Woodlands & Countryside Conservation

Length of Service at the show I've been involved with the Bath & West since 1987 either as an exhibitor or as a steward and latterly as Chief Steward.

Profession when not at the show Chartered Forester and Environmentalist – and Head of the Land based Faculty at Sparsholt College Hampshire, this covers all aspects of land based training from Arboriculture and Forestry, Agriculture, Horticulture Game and Wildlife, Fishery studies and Engineering.

Where do you live? Bruton, Somerset.

What does your stewarding job entail both before and during the show? As chief steward there are various jobs to be done throughout the year in preparation for the show – we have a committee meeting following the show to look at what worked well and what

may need improving for next show, new ideas and anything else within the area including show budgets. We also usually have a working party day where we will do any work that is needed in the Woodlands and Countryside Conservation area to help maintain the trees and hedges and the area in general. From there on it is about liaising with the show team, who are a great bunch, about exhibitors events and layouts. There is then a committee meeting around February time to ensure we all know what is going on and who is exhibiting, what demonstrations are planned and timings.

Together with the committee and the show staff we work out event demonstration timings and stewarding rotas so that we have everything planned, closer to the show there is a chief stewards meeting to go through logistics and risk assessments traffic management and emergency procedures. During the weeks running up to the show in late May it gets busy and the start of show week we are all on board to help set up and see exhibitors are in the right places, that areas are set out correctly and PA systems work (along with the contractors) that exhibitors have things they have ordered such as electricity supply – tables chairs and that they are happy – which I am glad to say is usually the case in our area. There are picnic benches to be set out and obviously to see that the area looks as best it can, so keeping an eye on unauthorised parking or camping is also important.

On the Tuesday of show week we have a safety briefing for all stewards and also ensure we all know what is planned and who is doing what – check on the stewards rota

and communications, incident reports lost children and all those things of importance and care for the show visitors.

Once the show has started there is an early morning chief stewards meeting everyday where any important news is shared together with how things are going around the show – visitor numbers and how busy we have been and also the weather – they key aspect – we also are briefed on VIP visits, section judging the show Presidents tour and any other relevant information. It is then off to the section to pass on information check on stewards and that all is in order for the coming day. When on duty stewards are involved in various tasks be it events timings to helping with enquiries from the public to maintaining health and safety and dealing with any incidents and or accidents. It is a busy time and can be a long day by the time things slow down around 6pm.

What is the most challenging aspect of it? Making sure that it is right for the public the exhibitors the society and the stewards. It is a busy time in the academic calendar also and as such I am busy at work but with appropriate planning it works out alright. In past years when we have been short on stewards being on duty for the whole week all day on all of the days was tricky and I was pretty pooped by the end but we have more help these days which is really good.

What is the most enjoyable aspect? The idea of the section is to entertain in an informative way about Woodlands and Countryside Conservation through the demonstrations, talks and information, to engage interest in the aspects of what we do, to which we are all dedicated is the most enjoyable aspect for me – also to work with a great bunch of people at the show and see people enjoying their day out.

Why do you do it? It is something I am passionate about and have always felt it important to see that we educate and inform about the important work that goes on in the countryside the Bath & West is the best show I have been to from this perspective and continues to evolve and keep up to date.

How did you become involved? I became involved from helping out as an exhibitor with setting up what was in those days the forestry section before it became Woodlands

and Wildlife and now Woodlands and Countryside Conservation. As a result of doing this for a few years I was asked if I would join the Forestry Committee and have been involved ever since – I am fortunate that my employers Sparsholt College Hampshire are great supporters of the show and also that the show usually falls on summers half term which makes it easier for me to be at the show as my students are also on half term.

What is the most amusing thing to happen to you while stewarding at the show? On one very hot Saturday during a show with very many visitors an elderly gentleman unfortunately steered his mobility cart into some mills barriers forming an event area and injured his arm – having dealt with the incident and seen him safely off with the medics – I then had to deal with the mobility cart, which was undamaged and had been hired for the show from some suppliers that were located right at the other end of the show ground – there was no other way to get it back but to drive it so in a very busy show I set off – when nearly there I had to stop for a road crossing near the main ring and heard the comment – “so they are giving those chief stewards buggies now are they – whatever next?”

What are the show highlights for you? Seeing that the area has run smoothly, that feedback from public and exhibitors is good and that the demonstrations and events have worked well, that the committee and stewards have enjoyed themselves and hopefully had some time to see some of the show themselves.

STEPHEN BARTLETT

Chief Steward & Chairman of The Safety Zone

Length of Service at the show Prior to taking over from Mike Cockram in 2005, I was a steward and assisted on the stand as well as stewarding on Grassland and Muck events.

Profession when not at the show It's complicated! I am a third-generation dairy farmer (pedigree Guernseys) farming in South Somerset though my family have been Farmers, Millers and Butchers in Wincanton and Castle Cary since 1740, but I also have a military career. I joined the Reserves 23 years ago, and am currently Military Assistant to Major General Brooks-Ward, Deputy

Commander Field Army, based at the Army Headquarters, Andover.

Where do you live? Hinton, a hamlet between Marston Magna and Mudford, near Yeovil.

What does your stewarding job entail both before and during the show? A lot of running around! Trying to find new participants and agricultural companies and groups to get involved, this was very difficult over the lean farming years but we seem to be getting a lot more interest and for the first time people are coming to me to get involved. A key element is talking to our sponsors during the whole year, planning the theme of the stand and the displays each sponsor will put on in order to ensure it meets the brief and provides plenty of interest to the public. During the Show I'm on the stand, engaging with people walking past, handing out information, running the children's Farm Safety competition, showing VIPs round – and hopefully finding some time to sneak off to see the rest of the Show.

What is the most challenging aspect of it? The Safety Zone is informative and educational, but no one comes to the Show to sit in a classroom so we're always looking for new ways to make the “message” entertaining and fun. Most kids love a bit of gore and they love to get close to machines and gadgets, which we need to keep safe and yet informative.

What is the most enjoyable aspect? Interacting with the people, especially the children, that come on to the stand. Our aim is to prevent accidents on the farm, in the country side, the garden and home, but should those accidents occur – how to stabilise and treat before the emergency services arrive. We do this by setting up demonstrations and then involving the audience in question and answers with the opportunity to practice resuscitation and cardio arrest.

Why do you do it? My family has been involved in farming as far back as we can go – it's in my blood. My parents were show members and I grew up going to the Show; I can't imagine not going every year, I enjoy it and wish to give something back to the show and provide that information that may prevent an accident on the farm or countryside.

How did you become involved? I got “nobbled” by Maj Gen Barry Lane, who was looking for younger members of the



agricultural community to get involved with the organising of the main show.

What is the most amusing thing to happen to you while stewarding at the show? There are so many funny moments when you have a team of around 35 to 40 working each day of all ages from cadets at 12 to stewards in their 80s, the not so funny moments are when we have one of those massive down pours and the stream floods, for it flows through the store rooms through the building and out the front and down main avenue. We also share the stand with a Mallard who lays her eggs every year in the corner flower bed and a Wagtail who nests above the doors onto main avenue and leaves lucky messages on people passing underneath during the show!

What are the show highlights for you? Working with a great team of volunteers who give their all for a week or so of preparation and showing. I also enjoy meeting up with the ‘show family’, many I do not see from one year to the next, but we seem to meet up, catch up and have a great time at the dinner table each evening when we can relax and look back on each long day.

continued overleaf



John Hemsley.

JOHN HEMSLEY

Chief Steward of Environmental Youth Awards (EYA)

Length of Service at the show 29 years

Profession when not at the show Project Research Consultancy, (Traveller, international rally driver, author and ex-soldier, I took early retirement from the Army to set up a consultancy business in International Project Research).

Where do you live? In a remote location on top of Mendip Hills.

What does your stewarding job entail both before and during the show?

Before:

- Chairing the EYA Committee
- Judging the county finalists
- Coordinating the finalists and dates
- Arrange for VIP to present awards
- Administration of the EYA (involving liaison with Society staff; liaison with sponsors; accounting for and overseeing EYA budget; arrange and buy awards; maintain the EYA website).

During:

- Running the EYA stand at the Show.

What is the most challenging aspect of it? Very mundane, I am afraid. It is trying to coordinate Regional judging dates for the various county finalists so that the judges (who are all working volunteers) can complete the judging in two days. There is always one county which cannot fit in with the rest and then, when everything is finally fixed, wants to change the arrangements, which then affects everyone else; which means 'back to the drawing board'. Another testing task is trying to marshal some 50 or 60 children into an orderly group for the VIP presentation at the Show.

What is the most enjoyable aspect? The enthusiasm of the young people.

Why do you do it? Because I have a deep concern for wildlife, the countryside, conservation and the environment. I also believe the Royal Bath & West Society has an important part to play in the Region, particularly in the education of young people. I have been coming to the Show since the mid-1950s in the days when it was still a peripatetic event.

How did you become involved? I was a member of the original Conservation Committee set up in the 1980s, eventually becoming Chairman of both that and the 'Conservation West Award' scheme. By the mid-1990s, conservation and environmental matters on the Showground fell victim to financial and structural reorganisation, and the Committee was dissolved. Along with two of the original members I decided to try to keep the environmental torch burning and apply it to the encouragement and education of young people. Out of this the Environmental Youth Award scheme was born, becoming one of a range of projects offered by the Society to encourage young people.

What is the most amusing thing to happen to you while stewarding at the show? In 2007 HRH The Duke of Kent was presenting the awards which were scheduled to take place at 12.00 noon precisely. The finalists had all been instructed to report to the EYA stand at 11.40am. At 11.35am we still had one group which reported that it was stuck in traffic 5 miles away and another who telephoned to say it was lost! At that moment a message arrived from Paul Hooper to say that HRH was running ahead of time and would be with us in 5 minutes time. A message went back to say this was impossible – no children ready to receive HRH; a counter-message came back to effect that HRH was already on his way. At that moment we could see HRH coming down the road from the Village Green. A suggestion to the Police that they stage a diversionary traffic

accident on Fifth Avenue to delay the party was not well received. A last desperate message was returned to Paul to suggest he takes HRH to Flower Tent, which was not on the Royal itinerary. Nell Matheson and her crew were comfortably ensconced in their hut with feet up, drinking coffee when the Royal Party unexpectedly walked in. When later I walked up to see Nell I was greeted with "Do you know what happened to us? Some silly b***** suggested that the Duke should come to visit us." Until now I have never admitted who that b***** was!

What are the show highlights for you? The livestock sections – when I have the time to go down to look at them!

MARY JAMES MBE

Chief Steward of Communications

Length of Service at the show On the Committee in 2002. Chief Steward for at least 6 years.

Profession when not at the show Retired dairy farmer, Trustee of Farmlink and various other organisations.

Where do you live? The first farm as you leave Bristol on A38 going south.

What does your stewarding job entail both before and during the show? Prior to the Show I am constantly in touch with Julie Kitching and with the Communications Working Group. It's meeting and greeting the Press on each day of the Show. Reporting to all stewards meeting each morning of the Show to hear what is happening across the Showground and to give a press report. Helping staff with numerous events each day which they have organised such as Farm Woman of the Year, Ladies Day, Guiding photographers and reporters so they get the best stories. One needs to have an encyclopedic knowledge of the entire Showground and to know the



Mary James
MBE.

names and jobs of all the staff which comes in very useful when doing a stint on the Press Office desk.

What is the most challenging aspect of it? Making sure we all promote the Show to the best of our ability.

What is the most enjoyable aspect? Networking. Talking to reporters and photographers.

Why do you do it? Because I love the Show and what it stands for. It is such a great opportunity to show the public what farming is all about.

How did you become involved? Paul Hooper asked me - and it was an honour to be asked.

What is the most amusing thing to happen to you while stewarding at the show? It has to be the First Ladies Day we held. I went to the balcony to meet the ladies. I could see the back of a smart, well built lady so I moved round to shake hands and was greeted by "Hello, I'm Terry from Northern Ireland" Enough said!

What are the show highlights for you? The Livestock, followed by the Heavy Horses and local food promotion.



Rupert
Uloth.

RUPERT ULOTH

Chief Steward of Reception, Grandstand, Cups and Trophies

Length of Service at the show 32 years.

Profession when not at the show Journalist and author.

Where do you live? Midhurst, West Sussex.

What does your stewarding job entail both before and during the show? I am responsible for looking after the guests, sponsors, judges, saluting officers and dignitaries who come to the President's room and box. With my fellow stewards I have to make sure that the correct cup or trophy is given by the right person to the right person and that the grandstand is functioning as it should.

What is the most challenging aspect of it? Reducing the element of surprise for the participants. I'm not sure I was forceful enough in warning a smartly attired naval officer that he would get covered in mud if he took a ride on the back of a scurry cart but the Princess Royal is never caught out. Her Lady-in-Waiting was always at her side ready to hand over her wellington boots for the muddy Main Ring.

What is the most enjoyable aspect? Meeting so many different people and helping them to enjoy the show.

Why do you do it? I must have spent four months living on the Showground over my life. It is like a second home. I've made friends who I might not see from year to year but they are strong bonds and I like the excuse to come back to Somerset.

How did you become involved? My father became Chief Executive just as I was leaving school and he introduced me to this special and amazing part of English rural life.

What is the most amusing thing to happen to you while stewarding at the show? I was in awe of steward Jack Best when I first arrived as I had heard about his time as a prisoner of war in Colditz. He was always the first to throw bread rolls at the stewards' dinners and had lost none of the elan that had driven his attempts to escape.

What are the show highlights for you? I never tire of the Grand Parade of Livestock in the Main Ring and I am so pleased that it is now happening on Saturdays as well. It celebrates everything we stand for as a Society and is a reminder of what is special about rural Britain.

2017 Dates



22 March

ROYAL
BATH & WEST
SHOW



31 May
to
3 June

BATH & WEST
THE DAIRY SHOW



4 Oct



Colin Johnston, our archivist uncovers the story of an antique trophy.

A most zealous ag

A regular request in our archivist's mailbox is for the story behind a family heirloom, usually a piece of silverware awarded by the Society as one of its many "premiums" or prizes in past centuries.

...the wealth of fascinating information which can be found...

This is the story uncovered in one such request, and illustrates the wealth of fascinating information which can be found in the Society's extensive archive, preserved today at Bath's Guildhall.

The owner of a sterling silver wine-coaster knew nothing of its history, or of its lucky recipient in 1835, identified only by the engraved inscription:

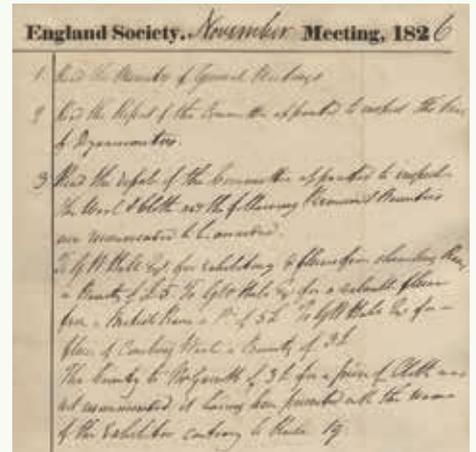
Awarded by the Bath & West of England Agricultural Society to Geo. Webb Hall Esq. for the best boar at the Annual Meeting 1835.

With just this slim information to work on, our detective-work began.

minute-books

To first confirm the details of the award, the Society's minute-books were checked for 1835, revealing the following entry: Annual Meeting held 8 December 1835. The several successful candidates had their Premiums in Plate presented to them by the Chairman after dinner at the White Hart.

To George Webb Hall esq. for the best boar Spanish and English a premium of £2 – 0 – 0.



We can begin to picture the scene, of the presentation of the silver wine-coaster costing £2, at the Society's dinner for its members at one of Bath's principal inns, the White Hart, which stood opposite the Abbey and the Pump Room.

The Society's archive contains no early membership registers but surviving letter-books containing copies of correspondence received and sent by the Secretary in the 18th and 19th centuries are revealing. Our search established that two generations of the same family, father and son, both named George Webb Hall, lived at Sneed Park in Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol. Both played an active role in the Society, as committee members, judges, essay-writers, and competitors in a broad range of farming competitions.

straw plait competition

George junior, winner of the silver wine-coaster, was appointed to the Society's Livestock committee in 1825, and in 1826 judged entries in the straw plait competition for hat-making using meadow barley grass.

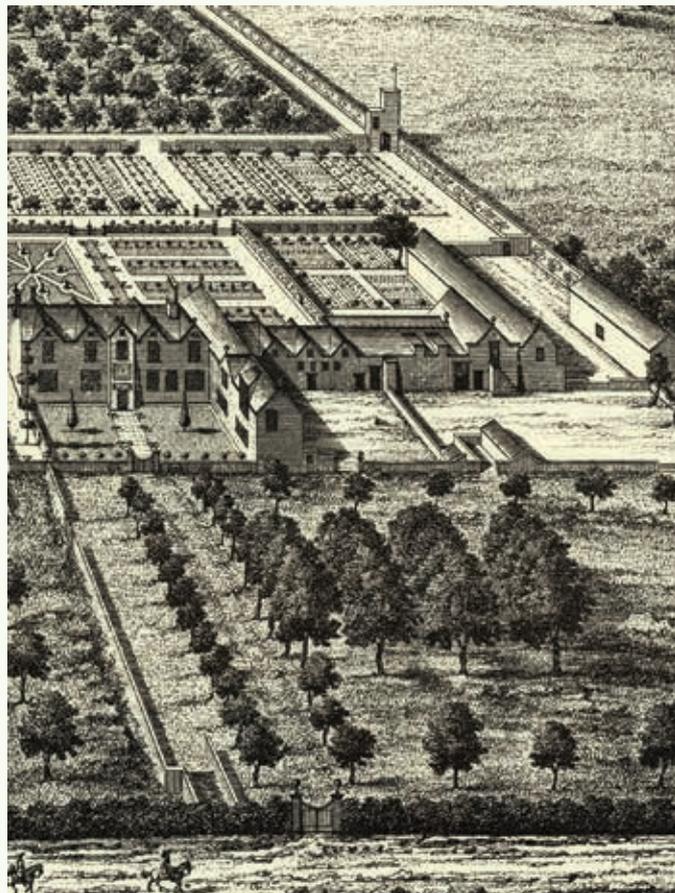
He judged the Society's annual ploughing match of 1828 in South Petherton, having in 1827 won the Society's prize of £5 as owner of the best plough at the ploughing match at Horfield Court Farm near Bristol. His



agriculturalist

ploughman received the traditional reward of a coat bearing the Society's buttons.

Also in 1828 George's essay on wheat cultivation won a Society's prize, and in the same year he presented to King George IV a specimen of British woollen cloth with the entreaty that royal endorsement by wearing British wool might boost the wool trade: ...knowing the sentiments of a large portion of the agricultural class, I may undertake to say that your Majesty appearing in public in the really British cloth would bind your Majesty's name still closer to their hearts, to set an illustrious example to his nobility and kingdom.



wool-production

George's expertise in wool-production had been recognised by the Society two years previously when in 1826 it awarded him prizes in three separate categories for fleeces of merino rams, British rams, and "combing wool."

Newspaper reports of George's agricultural successes, using today's online search facilities, reveal his extensive travels. In a pre-railway era, he visited Manchester Agricultural Society in 1829 to judge stock, and spoke publicly on the merits of mangel wurzel over turnips and carrots as cattle-feed and a soil-improver.

He also spoke out in 1835 against a move by our Society's members to support the political activity of the Royal Society of Agriculture, urging that our Society should remain non-political.

dedicated service

The archive evidence for George's role within the Bath & West is both detailed and revealing. He was an active committee member,

No.	Manager.	Plough.	Owner.	H. M.
1.	Stephen Baber	Scotch Iron	T. Peterson, esq.	2 10
2.	John Lovelock	Ditto	T. Kingston, esq.	2 10
3.	Geo. Taylor	Hibernia	His own	2 10
4.	Wm. Busse ..	Scotch Iron	T. Kingston, esq.	2 22
5.	Robt. Stevens	Northumberland ..	G. W. Hall, esq.	2 14
6.	Wm. Thick ...	Stobart's Patent ..	Mr. H. Stobert	1 50
7.	Robt. Wellake	Glooucester	Mr. John Pring...	1 48
8.	Chas. Watts ...	Scotch Iron	Mr. Thos. Marlean	1 40
9.	Wm. Higwell	Ditto Wood	Mr. Edwin Allier	1 40
10.	W. Pritchard	Ditto	Ditto	1 48

When the Ploughmen had finished their work, the Committee and a party of gentlemen repaired to the Montague Tavern, where an excellent dinner was provided, to which the company sat down at four o'clock; Dr. Parry, one of the vice-presidents of the Society, in the chair. Soon after the cloth was removed, the Secretary read the report of the Judges, and the following is the list of premiums awarded:

To the owner of No. 5, a premium of £5;—To the manager of No. 5, a Society's coat and buttons, and one guinea;—To the manager of No. 4, a Society's coat and buttons;—To the manager of No. 10, one guinea;—To the manager of No. 8, half a guinea.

B. LEIGH LYE, Sub Treasurer and Secretary.

judge, and competitor within the Society and outside. In this he was following the example set by his father, also a committee member and judge, and this pattern of dedicated service across generations of one family has been repeated down to our present time.

His contribution shines through the formal language of obituaries at his death in 1843, in newspapers from Newcastle to Belfast: ...a most zealous practical and experimental agriculturalist. An enlightened and practical advocate of improvement in every branch of our farming system.

In summary, a proud record of a little-known stalwart.

The Society's archive is in the care of its Honorary Archivist Colin Johnston, who is also archivist to Bath & North East Somerset Council at Bath's Guildhall. Visitors are welcome to research in person, or send their enquiries to him at colin_johnston@bathnes.gov.uk If you have any records or photographs relating to the Society which you are willing to donate or allow to be copied, please get in touch with Colin.



Alan Lyons, Head of Shows.

Eyes on the future at The Dairy Show 2016

As usual the eve of the Dairy Show kicked off by looking to the future with the Dairy Showmanship and Calf classes.

The Dairy Industry Dinner as always proved popular...

Local exhibitor Clare Miles from Witham Friary, Frome demonstrated her showing skills winning the Overall Showmanship Championship with Anwen Thomas from Carmarthen taking Reserve. Judge Kevin Rickard from Magor, Newport expertly assessed all the young exhibitors and gave great reasons at the end of each class. From Showmanship to full blown showing and out of the 78 entries Guernsey "Lucky Cow Princess Annabelle" from Pollard & Coryn came out on top. (Her prefix Lucky Cow is reference to her background). She is a daughter of a heifer which was generously donated by Brian and Sheila Adams from their well known "Willtown" herd to the charity Addington Fund. Well known Cornish exhibitors Pam & Dawn Coryn were the lucky winners, having already produced a good bull calf, the second calf "Lucky Cow Princess Annabelle" was tapped out as Supreme Champion Calf by Judge Mrs Wendy Young from Dewsbury.



Young handlers' class.

Dairy Industry Award

The Dairy Industry Dinner as always proved popular with 400 tickets sold. The guest speaker, Chris Walkland, gave a thought provoking address accompanied by two Monks! The Dairy Industry Award went to Mr John Stratton who has been a keen promoter of the Dairy Industry and especially the Holstein breed. He has always been keen to support and develop the younger generation and has organised DIY training, college seminars, stock judging and calf handling for both Young Farmers Club and Holstein Young Breeders.

With a top class panel of Breed Judges, Paul Westaway judging the Interbreed Heifer Championship selected Future Dreams Partnership Jersey Heifer "Future Dreams Tequila Veronica 2 VG88", whilst the Reserve went to local exhibitors RK & SG Miller & Sons with "Moorshard Val Dis Doorman Shower".

Pairs Champions

Paul Westaway found his Pairs Champions from the Brown Swiss pulling forward John West making the journey from Preston, Lancashire worthwhile, as with both animals were placed in their Breed Classes. Reserve



Guest speaker Chris Walkland, a farming market analyst.



The Reception before the Dairy Industry Dinner.



Supreme Interbreed Champion: R & B Thomas' Holstein 'Moorshard Dude Paradise ET.'

went to another long distance exhibitor James Warren, this time making the journey from Penzance, Cornwall worthwhile with his "Tredinney" Guernsey pair. James had a very successful day winning 5 of the 7 classes within the English Guernsey Cattle Society National Show, and took Breed and Reserve Breed Champion.

stole the crown

The Supreme Championship had everyone on the edge of their seats wondering if the outstanding Jersey senior cow from Jeff and Anthea Daw "Jubilee Excitation Ceres 2" would achieve the impossible and win her

third Dairy Show Interbreed. But it was not to be as the judges early on awarded their high points to the Brown Swiss "Elite WR Lovely" from M & S Williams from Carmarthen and it was the Holstein from R & B Thomas also from Carmarthen with their "Moorshard Dude Paradise ET" purchased as a calf in 2014 from RK & SG Miller which stole the crown with a credible 48 points to take the Supreme Interbreed Championship. The Jersey has still created history by winning two Interbreed and a Reserve Interbreed with 45 points, one point ahead of the Brown Swiss.



Dairy Industry Vet of the Future Lora Fryas receives her Trophy from the Vice Patron of the Society HRH The Countess of Wessex GCVO.

The Dairy Show will return on Wednesday 4 October 2017.



ADF Milking with HRH The Countess of Wessex GCVO.



Cattle Judging.



Speakers' Corner.



It's all change for the Horse Section, which will be moving this year to the opposite side of the Showground. It should prove to be one of the most attractive areas of the show explains **Alan Lyons**.

Kick on to a new era

I can recall the first time a move of the Horse section was put forward, it was greeted with horror from the Horse Committee and one misguided (non horse) person asking if we even needed horses! The reason for the move was the possible development of the Purple end of the Showground and the possible spread of development into the Horse Lorry Park and Stabling area.

...create a very special and unique feel to the Equine section.

Various requirements had to be considered such as road access, drainage, level ground and its general fit into the Showground layout. The two sites considered were either below 10th Avenue in the Blue Car Park Area, or the area once occupied by Power of the Past and Pony Club Games accessed across Green Car Park from the A37.

biggest challenge

The biggest challenge would be the gradient from Green Pedestrian Entrance to the lower corner of the woods adjacent to the Works Yard. Much to everybody's surprise the difference in height was 11 metres! This then created the next challenge. RM Penny, the excavation operator began with moving 17,000 tonnes of earth and laying 2,500 metres of drainage before reinstating the soil to create the beautiful grassed area we now have at the moment.

With the ground works complete we had considerable work to do in the Woodland Area to create three horse walks through the woods. We plan to make them with plenty



The seeding of the new Equine area .

of width for safety and create a very special and unique feel to the Equine section. One will be dedicated to the NSR Ring which will be solely an "In Hand Ring" and the Orchard Ring which will be a ring for general classes as well as those requiring "working hunter type" fences. The other walk ways are for the Grand Ring which will be split into 4 on the Friday the busiest day. With the volume of horses and ponies we plan to have IN and OUT walkways for safety reasons.

great view

The great advantage for Trade Stands on Avenue G will be to have a great view of the

entire Equine area with a grass verge in front for picnic tables. This area will be serviced by a new food area on the old Green Pedestrian Entrance. The new equine rings are also accessible from Woodland & Countryside Conservation which will have three entrances to the Equine Area.

Change is always difficult and I am sure we will have some teething problems in its first year, but with the guidance of Jane Cooper, Chief Horse Steward, and the Committee we have the potential for one of the most exciting and picturesque competitive horse section on any Showground in the Country.





Alan Stone a Society Members Representative steward and exhibitor and producer of cider gives an insight to the judging of cider.



Cider Judging

at the British Cider Championships



The British Cider Championships at the Royal Bath & West Show is one of the biggest and most prestigious cider competitions in the world. Over 500 entries are received from across the whole of Britain and there is an increasingly important international cider class.

...somewhere between straw and rich gold.

Around 30 Judges are involved in tasting the many different classes at the show – how do they decide on which ciders are worthy of winning the awards?

The visual appearance of the cider is looked at first. Is it an appropriate colour – somewhere between straw and rich gold.



Exhibits at the show, with a taster poured for judging.

Black and green ciders used to appear but fortunately there are few of these nowadays! The cider should also be bright and clear. Cloudy cider may be popular with modern marketing men but it is not part of well-made traditional cider.

The smell, 'nose', of the cider is important. Whatever it tastes like it is not likely to appeal to judges if it stinks of rotten eggs. This is actually a quite natural and common fault and it can occur in some good ciders.

dry, medium or sweet

The most straightforward element should be whether the cider is dry, medium or sweet. There are set criteria for how much sugar should be present in each category which can be tested with a hydrometer. However, clearly a dry cider should taste dry and a sweet cider sweet.

It then gets a bit more complex and the balance of natural tannins and acids is very important. Traditional West Country ciders should have a reasonable presence of tannins which leave a dry feel on the inside



Some of the bottled exhibits.

of the mouth. Ciders made with culinary and dessert fruits will have a much more acidic taste to them. It is not that one is right and one is wrong and all ciders have a blend of these factors.

particular 'flavour'

On top of this there is the particular 'flavour' of different varieties. Apples such as Kingston Black, Yarlington Mill, Browns Apple and many others have particular tastes which come through strongly. A good cider has a balance and complex depth of taste.

After the 'nose' the judge will be looking at the cider in three stages. The initial taste in the front of the mouth, the body of the taste in the mouth and cheeks and lastly the 'length' of the taste on the swallow. Although buckets are provided for spitting out in reality this cannot be done if you are to get a complete picture of the cider – fresh elements of taste and feel emerge as it goes down the throat.

more science

There is a lot more science that can be added to a description of the judging process however, a lot comes down to the judges' impressions comparing it to the other ciders in that class. Sometimes you taste a cider and just know it is excellent. Feel in the mouth, balance, complexity, depth and length of taste all come in to recognising a cider that is worthy of being champion.



Life is busy at the Showground all the year round. **Richard Calver** explains how the business side of the Society is helping to support our work.

B&W Enterprises

2016 has been an extremely busy year for the Bath & West Enterprises. We have seen an eclectic mix of events throughout the year that have attracted near to a million people to the site.

We were able to help Glastonbury Festival this June...

We have welcomed a handful of new events to the Showground this year. Craft for Crafters being one of them who ran two events this year, April and October – these events attracted thousands of crafting enthusiasts from all over the country.

weather conditions

We were able to help Glastonbury Festival this June by accommodating hundreds of stranded

campervans who were unable to get onto site due to the weather conditions. The option of camping at the Showground is something that will return in 2017 for the Glastonbury Festival go-ers.

July's National Action Sport Show (NASS) saw a large increase in attendees as it hosted the BMX World Championships this year which was hugely popular to both athletes and spectators as they attended the three day festival.

fond farewell

Sadly, Soul Survivor held their last event with us this year and we say a fond farewell to them following many years of them hosting successful events here on the Showground.

This year we welcomed our first Christmas Shopping Show, which took place during the last weekend of November and was a huge success, welcoming thousands of happy families gearing up for Christmas.



Craft 4 Crafters.



Craft 4 Crafters.

Spring

- VMCC
- Antique Fair
- West Country Game Fair
- Flea Market
- Motor Caravan Show
- Charterhouse Auction
- Toy Fair
- Craft 4 Crafters
- Antique Fair
- Royal Bath & West Show**

Summer

- Toy Fair
- Classic Car Show
- Glastonbury Camping
- Glastonbury Coaches
- Antique Fair
- NASS
- Flea Market
- New Wine
- Soul Survivor



Homebuilding Show.

Andy Kitchen, Craft 4 Crafters...

"It's always a pleasure to work with the staff at the Bath & West Showground, very helpful and friendly team. Anytime I have a concern, they are there with a solution, and swiftly deal with the issue."

Autumn

Motor Caravan Show
Charter House Auction

Antique Fair
VMCC

Flea Market

The Dairy Show

Toy Fair

Craft 4 Craters

Westfest

Classic Vehicle Restoration Show

Antique Fair

Homebuilding Show

The Christmas Shopping Show

Paul Rooney, Westfest/Slammin Events...

"We've been putting on an annual event with the Showground since 2004, so it's our longest running continuous event by a mile, which surely is testimony to the quality of both the venue and the staff."

Winter

Flea Market

Toy Fair

Wincanton Flyers

Antique Fair

Flea Market

Vintage Tractor Show

Toy Fair

Wincanton Flyers

Classic Bike Show

F J Autojumble

The Wedding Showcase

Festival of Cards

Flea Market



The Christmas Shopping Show.



NASS.



New Wine aerial view.

The Society Board of Trustees



Left to right...

Back row: Martin Thatcher, Richard Ash, Anthony Gibson OBE, Sir David Wills Bt.

Middle: Eleanor Matheson of Matheson, Angela Yeoman OBE DL, Richard Calver.

Front: Dr Lance Moir (Hon. Treasurer), Robert Drewett DL (Chairman), John Alvis MBE (Vice Chairman).



Mike Felton MFH.

Patron

Her Majesty The Queen

Vice Patron

HRH The Countess of Wessex GCVO

President

Sir John Cave DL

Chairman of the Board of Trustees (& Honorary Show Director)

Robert Drewett DL

Vice Presidents

Elected
to Council

Elected to Council	Elected Vice President
1982	HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, KG, KT
1978	HRH The Prince of Wales, KG, KT
2014	HRH The Duchess of Cornwall GCVO
1987	HRH The Princess Royal GCVO
2003	HRH The Duke of Gloucester, KG, GCVO
1998	ARMSTRONG, The Lord, of Ilminster, GCB CVO
2000	ARRAN, The Countess of, MBE, DL
1988	2002 BARNES, H.E.M., FCA
1998	2007 CAMERON of Dillington, Lord
	2001 CAIRNS, The Rt. Hon. The Earl, CBE
	2014 CAMPBELL, A. (ex-officio)
1984	2009 COTTON, A.W., OBE
1991	2007 DARE, M.H.
1963	1996 DAVIES, A.R., TD
	1976 DIGBY, The Lord
2001	2013 ELWES Sir Henry, KCVO
	2016 FELLOWES Lady
	2016 FELLOWES Lord
	2002 FIRTH, Brigadier, S.D.A., CBE
1974	2011 FRANKLIN, D.A.S.
	2001 GASS, Lady, DCVO
2007	2014 HUTCHEN, N.G.K.
	2005 KING, The Rt Honourable The Lord, CH
2003	2007 LANG BROWN J. MA, FICFor
1993	2003 McNAB, I., BVMS, MRCVS
2009	2015 MAW, Mrs A.R. (ex-officio)
1987	2002 PITT-RIVERS, G.A., OBE, DL
1984	2013 POW, Mrs N.E.
	2007 PRIOR, Mrs M., CVO, MBE, DStJ (ex-officio)
	2013 PRICE, Rt Rev'd Peter B.
1994	2013 REDWOOD, Sir Peter, Bt
2004	2013 RUSSELL, I. C.
	2002 SALISBURY, The Marquess of, PC, DL
	1996 SELBORNE, The Earl of, KBE, FRS
1999	2003 SIMS, G.
1988	2009 SHELDON, Mrs J.
1988	1999 SOMERSET, His Grace The Duke of
1996	2005 SPEID-SOOTE, J.R.
1991	2007 STREATFEILD, Mrs A.
	2011 TROTTER Dame Janet (ex-officio)
	2012 TROUGHTON Mrs C. (ex-officio)
	1993 ULOTH, Col. A.C.
	1995 VESTEY, The Lord
1997	2007 VINTCENT, J.
1977	2005 WAITE, M.A.
	2007 WALDEGRAVE, The Rt. Hon. Lord of North Hill, PC
1984	2013 WHITE, E., FRAGS
1967	1969 WIGRAM, Lt. Col. The Lord, MC, DL
1998	2009 YEOMAN, Mrs A.B., OBE, DL

Honorary Chaplain

Rt Rev'd, Peter Hancock –
Bishop of Bath and Wells

Members of Council

Ex-officio Members of Council

Presidents: Vice Presidents

Honorary Treasurer:

Moir, Dr L.

Lord Warden of the Stanneries:

BACON OBE, Sir Nicholas

Secretary & Keeper of the Records of the Duchy of Cornwall:

MARTIN, Alastair

Receiver General of the Duchy of Cornwall:

PEMBERTON, The Hon. James Leigh

Members of Council:

Elected
1987 ALEXANDER, A.F., BSc, FRICS
2009 ALLEN, E.J., DL
1999 ALVIS, J., MBE
1990 ASH, R.
2009 ATKIN, D.
2007 BAKER, J., FICFor, CEnv.M. Arbor.A.
2007 BARTLETT, S.
1987 BATTEN, D.H.C.
2002 BEST, R. DL, RN
2009 BISS, P.
2002 BOUGOURD, W.R.
1987 CALVER, R.T.
2007 CHAMBERLAIN, O., QVRM, TD, DL
2013 CHAPLIN, B.
2014 COOPER, Miss J
2002 COTTON, D.
2011 DAVIES, J., MBE
2007 DERBY, Mrs A.
2014 DERRYMAN, A.
2002 de PELET, Mrs I., BEM
1984 DREWETT, R.N.F., DL
2003 DREWETT, Mrs C.
2002 FELTON, M., MFH
1989 FITZGERALD, A.F.
2009 GIBSON, A., OBE
2009 GROVES, C.
2004 HANDEL, Mrs M.
1994 HEMSLEY, Brigadier J., OBE, FRGS
2008 JAMES, Mrs M., MBE
1994 LANE, Major General B.M., CB, OBE
2003 LAW, J.
2015 LOOK Mrs C.
1984 LYONS, M.R.
1999 MacDONALD, Mrs E.
2001 MacDONALD, N.C.
2007 MCKAIG M.
1987 MATHESON OF MATHESON, Miss E.
2014 MOIR, Dr L.
2007 MONTGOMERY, A.J.
2007 MOORE, A.
2011 MUIR MACKENZIE, Sir Alexander, Bt
2004 PALMER, P.J.
2013 PETHER, Lt Col, M., MBE
2008 PLUMMER, Mrs D.
2010 POW, Mrs R.

2007 PULLIN, M.
2007 RAWLINGS C.
2007 ROSS, C.P.
2009 SAGE, Mrs R.
2004 SEDGMAN, D.N.
2013 SEYMOUR, Mrs A.C.
1999 SNELL, C.
1995 SNELL, M.C.
2009 STAIB, Mrs M.
1994 STREATFEILD, G.
2014 THATCHER, M
2001 TIDMARSH Sir James, MBE, KCVO
2014 TROTT, MRS M.E.
2001 ULOTH, A.M.C.
2001 ULOTH, R.W.
1987 WALFORD, T.R.N., MIEE, CEng
2007 WHARTON, R., TD
2012 WHITE-SPUNNER Lt. Gen. Sir Barney, CBE
2009 WILCOX, A.H.
1982 WILLS, Sir David, Bt
2007 WOOD Mrs F.

Members' Representation on Council:

Elected
2010 ALLAN, Mr N., 1 Faraday House, High Street, Rochester, Kent ME1 1EZ Tel: 01634 831191
2008 NOBLE, Mr R., Meadow Croft, Top Street, Pilton, Somerset BA4 4DF Tel: 01749 890614
2008 STONE, Mr A., 10 Society Road, Shepton Mallet, Somerset BS4 5GF Tel: 07387 077747

Co-Opted Members to Council for 2014

Elected
1998 SQUIRES, Mrs M., MBE, Regional Director, National Farmers' Union – South West Region
1998 MORTIMER, J., Regional Director Dorset/ Som./Wilts., Country Landowners' Association

Representing County Branches of the National Farmers' Union

Dorset	COSSINS, J.
Gloucestershire	ROBINS, Mrs T.
Somerset	MILLER, J.
Wiltshire	SEALY, M.

Representing County Branches of the Country Landowners' Association

Dorset:	WELD, J.
Gloucestershire	BIDDULP, J.
Somerset:	HEBDITCH, D.
Wiltshire:	WALKER, J.

Representing the County Federations of Young Farmers' Clubs

Dorset:	CROAD, I.
Somerset:	WILLS, Mrs P.
Wiltshire:	POTTOW, Mrs K.

Representing Somerset Federations of Women's Institutes

Somerset:	FORD, Mrs S.
------------------	--------------

Representing Agricultural Colleges

Dorset:	RAKE, Mr L., Kingston Maurward College
Wiltshire:	BURNSIDE, Mrs A., Principal, Wiltshire College

Honorary Council Members

2006 BUSH, J., OBE CVO
1988 CLOTHIER, L.O.
1984 COOK, A.E.
2007 CHRISTENSEN, F.
1993 EDDY, R.G., BVETMED FRCVS,
2007 FISHER, G.
2001 FULFORD-DOBSON, M., CVO KSTJ JP RN
1994 GAMMON, R.D., MBE
1994 GIBSON, MRS WJ.
1995 JOLLIFE, THE HON. JOHN
1989 LAWRENCE, MRS P.
1997 LOCK, RN, J.C.W., CAPTAIN
2008 MALTBY, MRS S.
2007 PITT-RIVERS, MRS V., CVO
2004 ROPER, M.
1993 SKIDMORE, D.M.
1994 WARMAN, J.H.
2001 WHITE, J.S.B.

Trustees of the Society

Chairman: DREWETT, R.N.F., DL
Vice Chairman: ALVIS, J., MBE
Honorary Treasurer: MOIR, DR. L.
ASH, R.
CALVER, R.T
FELTON, M.J., MFH
GIBSON, A., OBE
MATHESON OF MATHESON, Miss E.
THATCHER, M.
WILLS, SIR DAVID, Bt
YEOMAN, Mrs A.B., OBE, DL

Other Officials

Auditors: FRANCIS CLARK
Bankers: HANDELSBANKEN
Fire Safety Advisor: TRIANGLE FIRE & RESCUE
Health & Safety Consultant: MENTOR
Honorary Archivist: JOHNSTON, C.A.,
City Archivist, Bath City Council
Honorary Editor of the Journal: ULOTH, R.W.
Honorary Librarian: JORDAN, Miss K.
Honorary Tree Conservator:
AYERS, Mr B., MICFor
Assistant Bio-Security Officer:
CLARK, P.J., BVetMed, CertBr, MRCVS
KENWARD, P., CertBr, MRCVS
Veterinary Officers:
GORDON P. MA VetMB CertCHP MRCVS
CUTLER K.L. BSc BVSc DipECBHM MRCVS
ROBERTSON, N. BVetMed MRCVS,
The Stables Equine Practice

Society's Representatives on Governing Bodies and Committees

Association of Show & Agricultural Organisations:
HOOPER, P.J. OBE

Golden Shears World Council:
DERRYMAN, A.

British Isles Shearing Competitions Association:
DERRYMAN, A.

Nuffield Farming Scholarships Trust:
ALVIS, J. MBE

Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth:
WHITE, E., FRAGS

Somerset Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs:
SNELL, M.C.

Permanent Staff

Main Office:

Chief Executive: Rupert Cox
Society & Company Secretary: Paul Hooper OBE
Financial Controller: David Stitch
Head of Shows: Alan Lyons
PA to Senior Management Team: Mary Holmes
Senior Trade Stands Officer: Sandra Collishaw
Marketing Sponsorship & Next Generation:
James Cox
Senior Entries Officer: Sarah-Jane Chick
Show Team Administrator: Jess Chiplen
Marketing & Communications Manager:
Jonathan Hall
Shows Marketing Manager: Julie Kitching
Special Events Organiser: Rachael Hann
Show Promotions Secretary: Sophia Orttewell
Assistant Accountant: Colleen Frisby
Accounts Assistant: Lydia Westlake
IT Manager: Matt Johnson
Charity Project Co-ordinator: Catherine Page

Estates Team:

Estates Foreman: Trevor Sellick
Estates Administrator: Kim Limb
Events Co-ordinator: Emma Anderson
Showground Account Manager, Venue & Events Co-ordinator: Sarah Case
Showground Events Assistant & Catering Co-ordinator: Laura Lewis
Estates Team: George Eldridge,
Jan Krajewski
Barry McDonald

The Society would like to record
with sadness the following death
over the past year:

Mr A.G. Rundle

Life Governors of the Royal Bath & West of England Society

Mr A.P. Baker
Mrs C.M. Barrett
(* Mr B.R. Bicknell
Mrs E.C. Bullivant
Mrs S.P. Burke
Mrs R. Burns
Mr J. Carter
(* Mr P. Clark B. Vet. Med., Cert BR, MRCVS
Mr M J.L. Cobb Bsc CEng MIEE
(* The Reverend Canon R. Davis
(* Mrs R. de Pelet, BEM
Rt. Hon. The Lord Digby
(* Mrs E.E. Drewett
(* Mr M. Duffin
Mr C.A. Egremont
Mrs G. Eyre
(* The Reverend Farmiloe
(* Mr G. Fisher
(* Mr A. Gibson OBE
Mr J.R. Gibson-Fleming DL
Mr D.R. Grandfield
Mr J.C. Grandfield
(* Mrs J. Hobhouse
Mr St John Hooper
(* Mrs P.M. Lawrence
Mrs C. Look
Mr H. Mackenzie-Green
(* Mrs G. Matthews MBE
Mrs J.E. Merry
(* Mr B.M. Mills, BVSC, MRCVS
Mr J.H. Ogborne
Mrs J. Osborne
(* Miss E.D. Overend
Mr J.N. Peters
Mrs J. Pimblett
(* Mr M. Pow
Mr T.J. Priscott
Dr D.T. Protheroe
(* Mr R.A. Quantrill
Mr W.S.C. Richards OBE DL
Mr M. Rutherford
Mrs J.M. Rutherford
Mr D.J. Saunders
Mr P. Saunders
(* Mrs M. Shaw
Mr F.K. Showering
Mrs R. Showering
(* Mr L.R. Staples
Lady Tidmarsh
(* Mrs J.M. Tilley
Mr C.G. Turner
(* Mr A. Vaughan-France
Mr T.J. Vaux
(* Mrs S. Whittaker
Major The Hon. Andrew Wigram, MVO
Mr F.J. Williams
(* Lady Wills
Brigadier Christopher Wolverson OBE DL
(* Mrs S. Wrixon

(* Honorary

Stewards

Members of Council are shown in **Bold** type.

ART

Mr F. Wood (Chief Steward)

Mr D. Chandler

Mr M. Coreth

Mrs R. De Pelet BEM

Mr M. Jerram

Mrs P. Harris

Mr J. Marshall

Mrs J. Moreton

Lady Redwood

Mr M. Suffield

Ms J. Thompson

Mr W. Vaughan

BEES, HONEY

Mr C. Rawlings (Chief Steward)

Mr B. Perkins

Mr K. Tredgett

FOOD & DRINK

Mr G. Streatfeild (Chief Steward)

Miss L. Hart

Miss B. Hutchings

Mrs E.C. Kingston

Miss S. Milner-Simmonds

Miss B. Milner-Simmonds

BRITISH FARMING FOR THE FAMILY

Mr D.N. Sedgman (Chief Steward)

Ms R. Sage

CATERING

Mr A.M.C. Uloth (Chief Steward)

Mrs K. Bradley-Hudson

Mr J. Burrough

Mrs I. Craven

Mrs F. De Fonblanque

Mrs M. Reed

Miss C. Rice

Mr D. Speed

COMMUNICATION/ MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION

Mrs M. James MBE (Chief Steward)

Mr N. Allan

Mrs T. Brimble

Mr P. Reynolds

DAIRY PRODUCE

Mr P. Mitchell (Chief Steward)

Mr M.J. Pullin

Mrs A. Streatfeild

ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH AWARD

Mr L. Davies MBE, FRGS (Chief Steward)

Brigadier J. Hemsley OBE, FRGS

Mr P. Hillard

Major A. Horsey

Dr. P. Vile

Major G.W. Wood

HORTICULTURE

Mr N. Hewitt-Cooper

Floral Art

Miss S. Bramble

HORSES

Showing

Miss J. Cooper (Chief Steward)

Mr M.J. Felton MFH (Chief Steward)

Sir Alexander Muir-Mackenzie Bt (Chief Steward)

Mr A.F. Alexander BSc FRICS

Miss B. Adlam

Mr D.H.C. Batten (Not 2016)

Mr R. Bliss

Mrs V. Booth

Mrs J.S. Bryer

Mr W. Carless

Mr T. Clarke

Mr F. Edwards

Mrs J. Garner

Miss E. Gibson

Mr W. Grant

Mrs H. Kirkland

Major P. Lawson

Miss D. Longland

Miss G. Mennim

Mr D. Puttock

Mr A.N. Renwick

Mr S. Somers

Ms C. Speid-Sooto

Mr C. Stanley-Smith

Mrs C. Warman

Miss A. Wharton

Mr W.R.J. Yeats

Heavy Horses

Mr B. Honeywell

Mrs D. Honeywell

Show Jumping Private Driving & Inter Hunt

Mrs A. Derby (Chief Steward)

Mr M. Caine

Mr I.M. Dudgeon

Mrs A. Newberry

Miss J. Maslin

Mr R. Nuttall

Mrs S. Trim

Mr C. Valentine

Mrs C. Valentine

LIVESTOCK

Mr M.R. Lyons (Chief Steward)

Mr A. Cotton OBE

Mrs A. Groves

Mr G. Groves

Bio-Security

Mr P.J. Clark BVetMed CertBR MRCVS

KENWARD, P., CertBr, MRCVS

Cattle

Mr P.D. Biss (Chief Steward)

Mr D.M. Barker

Mrs J. Biss

Mrs F. Britten

Mr R.B. Cotes-James

Mr H.G. Dart

Mrs J. Dart

Mr R. Dimond

Mr C. Groves

Mrs A. House

Miss B. Leyman

Mr R.A. Quantrill

Mr O. Simon

Miss H. Roe

Mrs M. Trott

Mr G. Twinberrow

Mr M. Yeandle

Mrs S. A. Yeandle

Mr M. Yeandle

Pigs

Mr M.C. Snell (Chief Steward)

Mr J. Champion

Mrs C. Hinks

Sheep

Mrs M.D. Handel MRICS, FAAV (Chief Steward)

Mrs M. Burrough

Mr C.F.B. Clark ARICS FAAV

Mr D. Rashley

Mrs G. Richardson

Mrs A. Seymour

Mrs R. Stamp

Mr S. Stamp

Mr M.E. Wall

ORCHARDS & CIDER

Mr B. Chaplin (Chief Steward)

Commander R.T. Best DL, RN

Mr M. Best

Mr M. Berkeley

Mr A. Berry

Mr B. Bradshaw

Ms L. Corp

Miss L. Copas

Mr P. Courtney

Ms E. Mangles

Mr R. Mangles

Mr J. Mitchell

Lt. Cdr. M. French

Mr J. Hoskyns

Mrs A. Hudson

Mr N. MacDonald

Mr E.J. Pearse

Mr N. Reader

Mr M. Ridler

Mr D. Sheppy

Mr A. Stone

Mr T. Steiner

Ms A. Tilly

POULTRY & SMALL ANIMALS

Mr J. Merchant (Chief Steward)

Mrs D. Bourne

Mr N. Collins

Mrs F. Doble

Mr R. Parsons

Mr F. Smith

Mrs M. Tite

Mr D. Vaughan

Mr P. Wilson

VINTAGE VEHICLES

Mr P.J. Palmer (Chief Steward)

Mr C. Burden

Mr L.O. Clothier

Mr J. Coakes

Mrs J. Coakes

Mrs J. Inge

Mr R. Hatcher

Mr A.G. Sugg

RECEPTION

Mr J. Alvis MBE (Chief Steward)

Major General B.M. Lane CB OBE (Chief Steward)

Rt Rev'd Peter B. Price

Col. Sir P. Redwood Bt (Chief Steward)

Sir James Tidmarsh KCVO MBE

Mr J. Vintcent (Chief Steward)

Grandstand

Mr R.W. Uloth (Chief Steward)

Mr S. Briston

Mr W. Southcombe

Mr J. Thomas

Mr P. Thompson

Cups & Trophies

Mrs J. Tincknell

Sponsors Lounge

Commodore G. Billson

Mrs R. Billson

Mr N. Evelyn (Head Steward)

Mrs S. Evelyn

Lady Stewart-Wilson

Long Service

Miss E.M.F. Matheson

Visitors' Steward

Mrs E. MacDonald (Chief Steward)

Mrs F. de Fonblanque

Mr T. Rebbeck

Mrs K. Saker

RING EVENTS

Mr C.P. Ross (Chief Steward)

Miss E. Craven

Mr T. Drewett (Not 2016)

Mrs S.J. Whittaker

SAFETY ZONE – TOWN & COUNTRY

Mr S. Bartlett TD (Chief Steward)

Mr E. Croombs

Ms L. Higgins

Lt. Col. M.A. Langdon

Mr S. Pinkerton-Clark

SECURITY

Mr E.J. Allen DL (Chief Steward)

SHEEP SHEARING

Mr A.R. Derryman (Chief Steward)

Mr A. Chick

Mr R. Pullin

Miss T. Pullin

SHOEING

Mr W.R. Bougourd (Chief Steward)

Mr S.R. Belasco
Mr N. Miller
Mr N. Perrott
Mr N. Phillips
Mr A. Reader-Smith

TRADE STANDS

Mrs M. Staib (Chief Steward)

Mr R. Allhusen
Miss R. Dobson
Mr R. Lowe
Mr M. Wyburn-Mason

Trade Stand Cups

Mr D. Cotton

Mr N. Howe
Mr S. Hutchings
Mrs C. Look
Ms L. Parker
Mrs A. Whitcombe

MAIN SQUARE ACTIVITIES

Mrs D. Plummer (Chief Steward)

Mr D. Dixon
Rev. T. Osmond

Village School

Ms H. Parker

WOODLAND & COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION

Mr D. Atkin (Chief Steward)

Mr J.K. Baker FICFor, CEnv. M.Arbor.A. (Chief Steward)

Mr B. Ayers
Mr N. Baker
Mr P. Bradish-Ellames
Mr R. Furneaux

Mr J.R. Lang Brown MA FICFor

Mr T. Ledbury
Mr P. Munford
Mr M. McKaig
Mr S. Russell

WORKS

Mr R. Ash (Chief Steward)

Cleanliness of Showground

Mr M.J. Cobb BSc CEnv MIEE

YARD

Mr A.H. Wilcox (Chief Steward)

Mr A. Chinn
Mr R. Clark
Mr E. Edwards
Mr E. Hale
Mrs J. Lowe
Mr J. Murray
Mr R. Oliver
Mr M. Page FCA
Mr J. Smith
Col. W.H.F. Stevens OBE
Mrs C. Tomkins

SHOWGROUND PARKING

Mr R. Wharton TD (Chief Steward)

Mr R. Abbott MBE
Mr O.J.H. Chamberlain QVRM TD DL
Lt. Col. N. Claypoole
Brig. T. Dalby-Welsh
Major D. Delius MBE
Mr R. Firbank
Lt. Col. P. Mellor
Lt Col M.J. Pether MBE

Standing Committees

The President and Chairman of Trustee Board are ex-officio members of all committees. Members of Council are shown in **Bold** type.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Mr K. Sutherland (Chairman)

Mr R. Calver

Dr L. Moir (Hon. Treasurer)

Mr M. Thatcher

CHARITY COMMITTEE

Sir David Wills Bt (Chairman)

Mrs A. Coombes

Mr D. Cotton

Mr A. Gibson OBE

Mrs C. Look

Rt Rev'd Peter B. Price

Ms R. Sage

Mr E. White, FRAGS

Mr L. Davies MBE FRGS

ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH AWARD

Mr L.C. Davies MBE FRGS (Chairman)

Brigadier J. Hemsley OBE FRGS

Mr P. Hillard

Major A. Horsey

Miss T. Ferman (HSBC)

Mr R. Smith

Major G.W. Webb

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

Mr A. Gibson OBE (Chairman)

Commander R.T. Best DL RN

Dr P.W. Brassley

Prof. E.J.T. Collins

Mrs L. Copas

Mr A.W. Cotton OBE

Brig. S.D.A. Firth CBE

Mr C.A. Johnston (Hon. Archivist)

Ms K. Jordan (Hon. Librarian)

Mrs K. Robinson

Mr A. Stone

Mr R.W. Uloth

DISQUALIFYING

Mr R.N.F. Drewett DL (Chairman)

Mr J. Alvis MBE (Vice-Chairman)

and three stewards of the show department concerned

Show Committees

MAIN SHOW COMMITTEE

Mr R.N.F. Drewett DL (Chairman)

Mr R. Ash

Mr A. Gibson OBE

Mr M.R. Lyons

Sir Alexander Muir-Mackenzie Bt

Mr D.N. Sedgman

Mrs M. Staib

Mr G. Streatfeild

Mr A.M.C. Uloth

Mr A. Wilcox

ART

Mrs F. Wood (Chairman)

Mr M. Coreth

Mrs R. de Pelet, BEM

Mr M. Jerram

Mrs P. Harris

Mr J. Marshall

Mrs J. Moreton

Lady Redwood

Mr M. Suffield

Ms J. Thompson

Mr W. Vaughan

BEEES & HONEY

Mr C. Rawlings (Chairman)

Mrs A. Barr

Mr J. Barr

Mr S. Horne

Mr B. Perkins

Mrs S. Perkins

Mrs S. Rawlings

Mr K. Tredgett

BRITISH FARMING FOR THE FAMILY

Mr D. Sedgman (Chairman)

Mr I. Dyer

Mr A. Perrett

Ms R. Sage

Mrs P. Scadding

Miss R. Sharp

Mr I. Tossell

Mrs B. Wood

Mr D. Wood

CATERING

Mr A.M.C. Uloth (Chairman)

Mrs K. Bradley-Hudson

Mr N. Evelyn

Mrs E. MacDonald

Miss C. Rice

Mr D. Speed

Mrs A. Seymour

CATTLE SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr P.D. Biss (Chairman)

Mr D.M. Barker

Mrs J. Biss

Mrs F. Britten

Mr P.J. Clark BVetMed CertBR MRCVS

Mr R.B. Cotes-James

Mr A.W. Cotton OBE

Mr K.L. Cutler BSc BVSc DipECBHM MRCVS

Mr H.G. Dart

Mr R. Dimond

Mr P. Gordon MA VetMB CertCHP MRCVS

Mr C. Groves

Mrs A. House

Mr P. Kenward CertBR, MRCVS

Mr M.R. Lyons

Mrs K. Sales

Mr O.S.L. Simon

Mrs M. Trott

Mr G. Twinberrow

Mr M. Yeandle

DAIRY PRODUCE

Mr P. Mitchell (Chairman)
Mr A. Barber
Mr J. Longman
Mr J. Longman
Mr R. Longman
Mr M. Pullin
Mr B. Savage
Mr A. Streatfeild
Mr J. Tunstall
Ms R. Windsor
Mrs C. Westcar

FLORAL ART SUB-COMMITTEE

Miss S. Bramble (Chairman)
Mrs M. Bown
Mrs N. Chenery
Mrs D. Clark
Mrs P. Heron
Mrs C. Lane
Mrs P. Matthews

HORSES

Miss J. Cooper (Chairman)
Mrs A. Derby
Sir Alexander Muir-Mackenzie Bt
Mr I.M. Dudgeon
Mr M.J. Felton MFH
Miss E. Gibson
Ms A. Newbery
Mr R. Nuttall
Mr N. Robertson BVetMed MRCVS
Mr C.P. Ross
Miss C. Speid-Sootie

MAIN STOCK

Mr M.R. Lyons (Chairman)
Mr P.D. Biss
Mr A.W. Cotton OBE
Mr K.L. Cutler BSc BVSc DipECBHM MRCVS
Mr P. Gordon MA VetMB CertCHP MRCVS
Mr C. Groves
Mrs M.D. Handel MRICS FAAV
Mr P Kenward CERTBr, MRCVS
Mr M.C. Snell
Mrs M.E. Trott

ORCHARDS & CIDER

Mr A. Gibson OBE (Chairman)
Commander R. T. Best, DL, RN
Mr B. Bradshaw
Lt. Col. P. Brown
Mr B. Chaplin
Mrs L. Copas
Ms A. Farmer
Lt. Col. French
Mr J. Hoskyns
Ms A. Hudson
Mr E. Landon
Mr N. MacDonald
Mr M. Rogers
Mr D. Sheppy
Mr A. Stone
Mrs A. Tilley
Mr J. Temperley

POULTRY & SMALL ANIMALS

Mr J. Merchant (Chairman)
Mrs D. Bourne
Mr B. Linge
Mrs D. Jackson
Mr F.D. Smith
Mr M. Thompson
Mr D. Wakeham
Mr P. Wilson

VINTAGE VEHICLES

Mr P.J. Palmer (Chairman)
Mr C Burden
Mr L.O. Clothier
Mr J. Coakes
Mrs J. Coakes
Mr R. Hatcher
Mr A.G. Sugg

SAFETY ZONE – TOWN & COUNTRY

Mr S. Bartlett TD (Chairman)
Mrs D. Birtwistle
Mr E. Croombs
Mrs H. Hawkins
Ms L. Higgins
Lt. Col. M.A. Langdon
Mr S. Pinkerton-Clark
Mr M. Toop
Mr P. Woodward

SHEEP & PIGS

Sub-Committee
Mr M.C. Snell (Chairman)
Mrs M. Burrough
Mr J.A. Champion
Mr C.F.B. Clark ARICS FAAV
Mrs M.D. Handel MRICS FAAV
Mrs C. Hinks
Mr W. Hyde
Mr M.R. Lyons
Mr M. Miller
Mrs A. Seymour
Mrs R. Stamp

SHEEP SHEARING

Mr A.R. Derryman (Chairman)
Mr A. Barratt
Commander R.T. Best, DL, RN
Mr J. Branfield
Mr A. Chick
Mr R. Gardner
Mr E. Goodfellow
Miss A. Gould
Mr D. John
Mr R. Lee
Mr G. Mudge
Mr A. Mudge
Mr R. Pullin
Mr D. Takle
Mr A. Wear

SHOEING

Mr W.R. Bougourd (Chairman)
Mr R. Ash
Mr S.R. Belasco
Mr N. Miller
Mr N. Perrott
Mr N. Phillips
Mr A. Reader-Smith
Mr D. Thompson

WOODLAND & COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION

Mr J.K. Baker FICFor, CEnv. M.Arbor.A. (Chairman)
Mr D. Atkin (Vice-Chairman)
Mr B. Ayers
Mr R. Buckland
Mr R. Furneaux
Mr H.F. Galpin
Mr D. Gervers
Mr B. Honeywell
Mr J.R. Lang Brown MA FICFor
Mr T. Ledbury
Mr P. Munford

Show Working party

COMMUNICATION

Mrs M. James MBE (Chairman)
Mrs T. Grimble
Mr A. Gibson OBE
Mr P. Reynolds
Mrs A. Carey Brown
Mr P. Sherborne
Mrs O. Cooper
Mrs W. Best

FOOD AND DRINK

Mr G. Streatfeild (Chairman)
Mr A. Streatfeild
Mrs E. Kingston
Mr T. Calver

HORTICULTURE

Mr N. Hewitt-Cooper (Chairman)
Miss S. Bramble
Mrs C. Lane
Mrs K. Trippick
Mr N. Cox

MAIN SQUARE ACTIVITIES

Mrs D. Plummer (Chairman)
Mr D. Dixon
Rev. T. Osmond
Mrs H. Parker

Specialist Show Standing Committees

DAIRY SHOW, MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr R.T. Calver (Chairman)
Mr P.D. Biss
Mr A.W. Cotton OBE
Mr D. Cotton (Vice Chairman)
 Mr K.L. Cutler BSc BVSc DipECBHM MRCVS
 Mr P. Gordon MA VetMB CertCHP MRCVS
Mr M.R. Lyons
 Mr P. Kenward CERTBr, MRCVS
 Mr E.J. Pearse

DAIRY SHOW, CATTLE

Sub-Committee

Mr M.R. Lyons (Chairman)
Mr P.D. Biss
 Mrs J. Biss
 Miss L. Carnell
 Mr P.J. Clark BVetMed CertBR MRCVS
 Mr R.B. Cotes-James
 Mr K.L. Cutler BSc BVSc DipECBHM MRCVS
 Mr T. Garry
Mr C. Groves
 Mr P. Gordon MA VetMB CertCHP MRCVS
 Mr M. Hillyer
Mr P. Kenward CERTBr, MRCVS
 Miss C. Miles
 Mr R. Osborne
 Mrs K. Sales
 Mr J. Sayer
 Mrs T. Selway
 Mr G. Twinberrow

GRASSLAND UK

Mr D. Sedgman (Chairman)
 Mr J. Bolton
 Mrs K. Dunford
 Mr N. Fone
 Mr D. Forbes
 Mr R. Longman
Mr C. Snell
 Mr T. Teagle
 Mr S. Williams

The following are boards of the subsidiary companies of the Society

BATH & WEST SHOWS LTD

Mr J. Alvis MBE (Chairman)
Mr R. Ash
Mr R.T. Calver
Mr R.N.F. Drewett DL (Chairman of Trustee Board)
Mr A. Gibson OBE
Miss E. Matheson of Matheson
Mr D. Sedgeman

BATH & WEST ENTERPRISES LTD

Mr R. Ash
Mr R.T. Calver (Chairman)
 Mr R. Cox
Mr R.N.F. Drewett DL (Chairman of Trustee Board)
Mr M. J. Felton MFH
 Mr D. Gidney
Mr E. MacDonald
Dr L. Moir (Hon. Treasurer)
 Mr R. Peto
Mr A.B. Yeoman OBE DL
 Mr P.J. Hooper OBE (Company Secretary)

Bath & West Estates Management Company Ltd

Mr R. Cox
 Mr P.J. Hooper OBE (Company Secretary)

As at 20 January 2017

Past Presidents' of the Society

YEAR	PRESIDENT	YEAR	PRESIDENT
1970	The Lord Ashburton, KG, KCVO	1994	The Lord Vestey
1971	Col. C.T. Mitford-Slade	1995	The Earl of Selborne, KBE
1972	Brig. The Lord Tryon, GCVO, KCB, DSO	1996	Mr R.W. Drewett DL
1973	The Lord Dulverton, CBE, TD	1997	The Lord Armstrong of Ilminster, GCB, CVO
1974	The Earl Waldergrave, KG, TD, DL, GCVO	1998	The Rt Rev. James Thompson, The Lord Bishop of Bath & Wells
1975	Col. C.T. Mitford-Slade	1999	The Countess of Arran DL
1976	The Lord Digby	2000	The Rt. Hon. The Earl Cairns, CBE
1977	HRH The Prince of Wales, KG	2001	Rt. Hon. Viscount Cranborne DL
1978	His Grace The Duke of Wellington, MVO, OBE, MC, DL	2002	HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG, GCVO
1979	Col. W.Q. Roberts, CVO, CBE, DSO, DL	2003	Lady Gass, Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Somerset
1980	Sir John Wills, Bt, TD	2004	The Rt. Hon. The Lord King of Bridgwater CH
1981	HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, KG, KT	2005	The Marquess of Salisbury, PC, DL
1982	The Marquess of Salisbury, DL	2006	Lord Waldegrave of North Hill
1983	Lt. Col. G.W.F. Luttrell, MC	2007	Lord Cameron of Dillington DL
1984	The Lord St. Levan, DSC, DL	2008	Angela Yeoman, OBE, DL
1985	Field Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs, GCB, CBE, DSO, MC, DL	2009	The Earl of Devon
1986	HRH The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, GCVO	2010	HRH The Countess of Wessex GCVO
1987	Lord Romsey	2011	HRH The Countess of Wessex GCVO
1988	Mrs Susan Williams, MBE, JP	2012	Sir Henry Elwes KCVO
1989	Major The Lord Darling, DL	2013	The Rt Revd Peter B Price, Bishop of Bath & Wells
1990	Sir John Quicke, CBE	2014	HRH The Duchess of Cornwall GCVO
1991	Mr Marmaduke Hussey	2015	The Lord & Lady Fellowes
1992	(Deputy President) Col. G.W.F. Luttrell, MC	2016	Michael Eavis CBE
1993	Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Henry Leach, GCB, DL		

Acknowledgments

The Royal Bath & West of England Society is very grateful to the following for their generous donations, sponsorship and support of its shows in 2016.

BATH & WEST

THE DAIRY SHOW

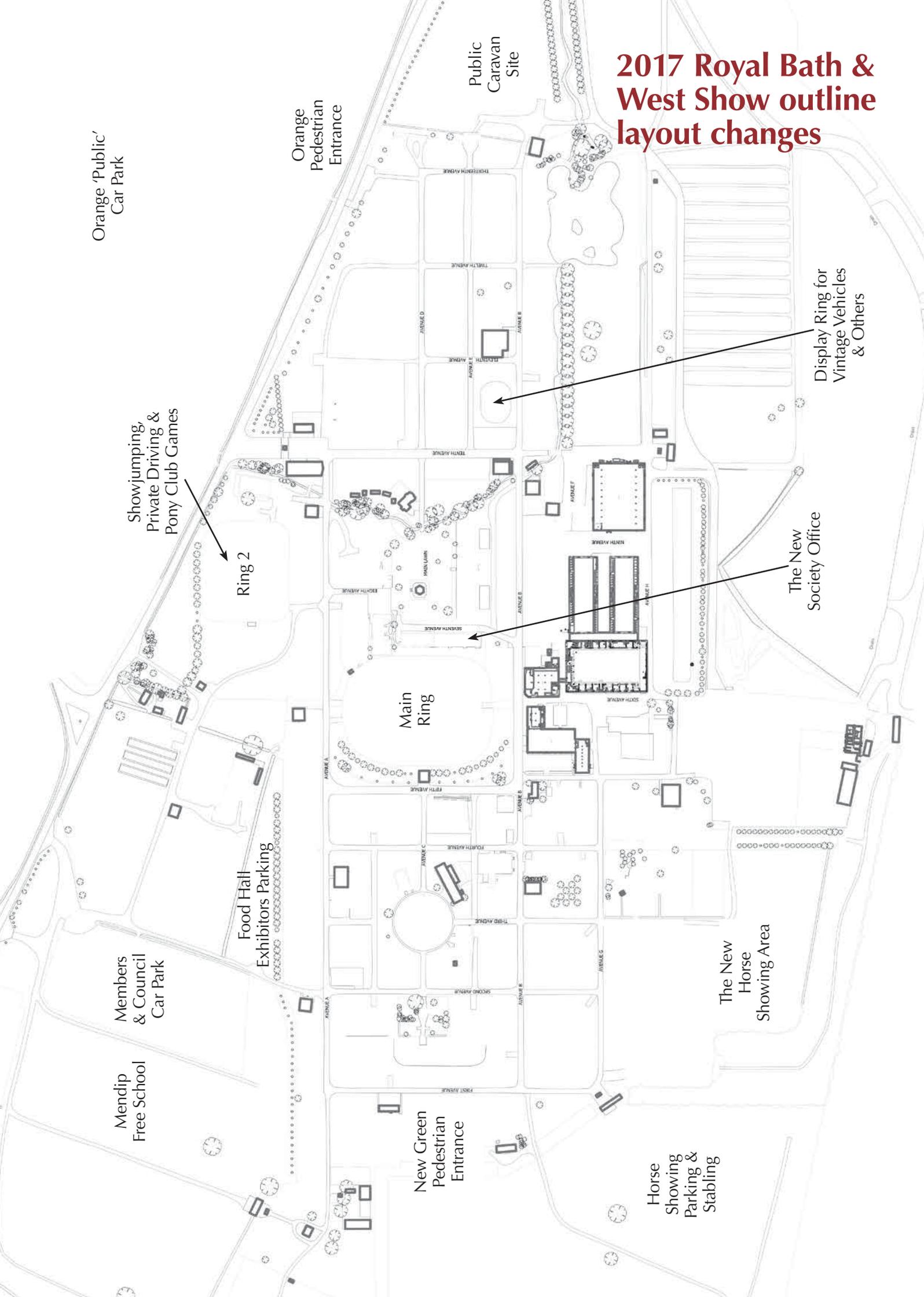
- AJ & RG Barber – Associate Show Sponsor and the Dairy Industry Dinner
- Battens Charitable Trust – Cattle Judging Rings
- Burges Salmon LLP – The Dairy Industry Dinner Reception
- Coombe Farm Milk Pool – The Dairy Industry Dinner
- Crediton Dairy – The Dairy Industry Dinner
- Deosan Diversey – Disinfectant
- Farmers Guardian/Dairy Farmer – Media Partner
- Farmplan – Cattle Movement Software
- Fullwood – Milking Equipment
- ForFarmers – Dairy Industry Vet of the Future Award
- Freedom Dairy Systems – Robotic Milker Feature
- Giltspur Scientific – Holstein
- Gold Top – Jersey
- IAE – Dairy Shorthorn
- Lye Cross Farm – The Dairy Industry Dinner
- Micron Bio-Systems Limited – The Dairy Show Headline Sponsor
- Milkrite | InterPuls – Brown Swiss
- NatWest – Interbreed Heifer Championship
- NFU – Dairy Show
- NMR – Guernsey
- NSR Communications Limited – AV Equipment
- Old Mill – Cattle Pairs Championship
- Pearce Seeds – The Dairy Show
- Platts Animal Bedding – Judging Rings Surface
- AE Rodda & Son – The Dairy Industry Dinner
- Santander Corporate & Commercial Banking – Livestock Section
- Shepton Vets – Showmanship and Calf Classes
- Tom Yeoman – Ayrshire
- Wyke Farms – The Dairy Industry Dinner
- Yeo Valley Farms (Production) Limited – The Dairy Industry Dinner

ROYAL BATH & WEST SHOW

- AJ & RG Barber – British Cheese Awards
- Angels Stud – Equine
- Atlas Packaging – British Cheese Awards
- Aubrey Allen – British Cheese Awards
- Avon Beekeepers' Association – Bees & Honey
- Barry Fowler – Sheep
- Bartlett, Gooding & Weelen – Vintage Section
- The Bath Gin Company – Showjumping
- Battens Solicitors – British Farming for the Family
- The Best Family – The Royal Bath & West English National Championship
- Blue Chip Feed Limited – Equine
- Bollhayes Cider – Orchard & Cider Pavilion
- Bond Dickinson LLP – Corporate Friend
- Bord Bia – British Cheese Awards
- Brinsea Products – Bees and Honey
- British Cheese Board – Cheese Industry Award
- British Wool Marketing Board – Sheep Shearing
- Brunel Microscopes Limited – Poultry and Small Animals
- C Snell of Chard – Commercial Lamb
- Care UK – Main Lawn
- Carter Jonas – Corporate Friend
- The Champagne Cave – Headline Show Sponsor
- Chard Equestrian – Shoeing and Wrought Iron
- Chew Moos Ice Cream – Dairy Cattle
- Coombe Castle International – British Cheese Awards
- Cooper & Tanner – Young Farmers Stock Judging
- Core Equipment – Orchard & Cider Pavilion
- Country Baskets – Floral Art
- Cox & Robinson – Farm Woman of the Year and Poultry & Small Animals
- Cuddy Family – Equine
- D & P Mead & Co – Livestock
- Danco – Judges and Stewards Pavilion and Disabled Viewing Platform
- Denelas – Horticultural Reception
- DLL Group – Sheep
- Dorothy Bourne – Poultry and Small Animals
- Dupont – British Cheese Awards
- Elanco Animal Health – Poultry and Small Animals
- Elite Racing Club – Equine
- The Equestrian Bible – Equine Ring 2
- Equine Products – Showjumping
- Mrs D Errington – Showjumping
- Etheridge Farm Stud – Equine
- Federation of Small Businesses – Gift & Lifestyle
- Fernhill Farm – Sheep Shearing
- The Fine Cheese Co. – Judges Aprons
- The Fire Alarm Consultancy Limited – Equine
- Foot Anstey – Corporate Friend
- G Northover & Sons Limited – Shoeing and Wrought Iron
- George Mudge & Co. Shearing Equipment – Sheep Shearing
- Godwins – Horticultural Village
- Graham Walton Publishing – Heavy Horses
- Handelsbanken – Corporate Friend
- Harrys Cider – Shoeing and Wrought Iron
- Harvey & Brockless – British Cheese Awards
- Hayes Catering – Cattle
- Hazlegrove – Showjumping
- Higos – Food & Drink Marquee

- HSBC – Environmental Youth Awards
- Investec Wealth & Investment Limited – Corporate Friends
- Jack Wills – Show Sponsor
- Jacksons Fencing – Woodland and Countryside Conservation and British Farming for the Family
- James Wellbeloved – Woodland and Countryside Conservation
- John Loader (Wessex) Limited – Poultry and Small Animals
- John Wainwright & Co Limited – Roadsweeper
- Johnson Diversey – Livestock
- Karcher – Livestock
- Kesbury Limited – Sheep
- Kingdown Stud – Equine
- Kingston Wing, Yeovil Hospital – Headline Show Sponsor
- The Kroger Co. – British Cheese Awards – Best English
- Kubota (UK) Limited – Headline Show Sponsor
- Lactalis McLelland – British Cheese Awards
- Lawrence Fine Art Auctioneers Limited – Art
- Legg Brothers Limited – Shoeing and Wrought Iron
- Lift West UK – Show Sponsor
- Lister Shearing – Sheep Shearing
- London & Wharfedale Limited – Corporate Friend
- LX Trix Limited – Showjumping
- Marks & Spencer – British Cheese Awards
- McDonalds UK – Livestock
- Millcross Stud – Equine
- Mogers Drewett – Cattle
- Moorlands – British Cheese Awards
- Morton New – Equine
- Mustad – Shoeing and Wrought Iron
- National Association of Cider Makers – Orchards & Cider
- Natraliving Health – Equine
- Norton Cider Growers Association – Orchards & Cider
- NSF Agriculture – Livestock
- NSR Communications Limited – Equine Ring 3
- Nuttall Equestrian – Showjumping
- Old Mill – Dairy Cattle
- Old Mill – Food & Drink Area
- OMSCo – British Cheese Awards – Best Organic
- Osborne Refrigerators – Equine
- PD Hook Hatcheries – British Farming for the Family
- PJ Rosewell Garden Services – YFC Tug of War
- Peter Green Chilled – Reception centre for entries/Reserve Champion
- PKF Francis Clark – Livestock and Corporate Friends
- Port Regis School – Showjumping
- RM Penny (Plant Hire & Demolition Limited) – Main Ring
- Rainbow Embroidery – Equine
- Rathbone Investment Management – Art
- Redlynch – Big Pink Bale Musical Drive
- Richard Ash Horse Shoes – Shoeing and Wrought Iron
- Richards Family, The – Equine
- Ridgehill Welsh Cobbs – Equine
- Rose, AP & C – Pigs
- Rowcliffe, Anthony & Son – British Cheese Awards - Best Blue
- Royal Agricultural University – Team Challenge Competition
- Ruby and White – Cattle
- South Western Association of Welsh P&C Society – Equine
- Sheldrake Labels – Sheldrake Labels
- Sheppy's Cider – Orchard & Cider Pavilion
- Shepton Vets – Cattle
- Sign of the Owl Birds – Poultry and Small Animals
- Silver Back Chaps – Shoeing and Wrought Iron
- Silverline – Horticultural Village
- Sir Robert McAlpine Limited – Show Sponsor
- Somerdale International – British Cheese Awards – Best Welsh
- Somerset Beekeepers Association – Bees and Honey
- South West Tyres – Big Pink Bale Musical Drive and Cattle
- Speciality Food Magazine – British Cheese Awards – Best Dairy Product
- Superplants – Presidents Lounge
- SWECA – Orchard & Cider – Cider Gold Medal
- Tesco – British Cheese Awards – Best Cheddar
- Thatchers Cider Company Limited – Orchard & Cider section and Best Cider – Orchard Award
- Tom Yeoman – Showjumping
- Tony Vaughan France – Showjumping
- Toomer Farm – Equine
- The Honourable Mrs Townshend – Golden Shears Open Blade
- Tovergate Insurance – Cattle and Woodland & Countryside Conservation
- Volac – Big Pink Bale Musical Drive
- Waitrose Wells – Thriving Trolleys Competition
- Waldegrave Farms Limited – Cattle
- West Country Farmhouse Cheesemakers – British Cheese Awards – Reserve Champion
- Western Power Distribution – Safety Zone, Childrens Farm Safety Competition
- Wiltshire Beekeepers Association – Bees & Honey
- Wincanton Racecourse – Equine
- Wookey Hole Cave Aged Cheddar – Show Map
- Woolley & Wallis – Sheep
- The Woolroom – Wool Handling
- World First – Best PDO/PGI Award
- The Worshipful Company of Coopers – Orchard & Cider Pavilion
- The Worshipful Company of Fruiterers – Orchard & Cider Pavilion
- The Worshipful Company of Woolmen – Golden Shears Intermediate
- Wyke Farms Limited – British Cheese Awards – Judge's Lunch
- Yeo Valley Farms (Production) Limited – Headline Show Sponsor
- Yeo Valley Farms (Production) Limited – Dairy Business Innovation Award

2017 Royal Bath & West Show outline layout changes



Orange 'Public'
Car Park

Orange
Pedestrian
Entrance

Public
Caravan
Site

Showjumping,
Private Driving &
Pony Club Games

Ring 2

Main
Ring

Display Ring for
Vintage Vehicles
& Others

The New
Society Office

Members
& Council
Car Park

Food Hall
Exhibitors Parking

The New
Horse
Showing Area

Mendip
Free School

New Green
Pedestrian
Entrance

Horse
Showing
Parking &
Stabling



The Morris men perform on the main lawn.

THE ROYAL
BATH & WEST
OF ENGLAND SOCIETY

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