



Bucks County Show

Newsletter No. 16

February 2018

IMPRESSIONS FROM THE PRESIDENT *Countess Howe*



What an extraordinary honour it was for me to be invited to be the Show's President in its 150th Year, and so I offer a special thank you to all the stewards for making it such a successful day, to the masses of volunteers who ensure that the day runs smoothly, and to the Committee for inviting me to be part of this landmark celebration.

My first experience of the County Show, a mere 50 years ago, was significantly different! It was held at the historic Hartwell House, and I was riding my pony in a couple of the classes. The weather was extreme; rain coming down in stair rods, mud which even hippos would have struggled in, and every vehicle needing to be towed out by tractor. How the organisers managed to recover from that Show, and continue the tradition until today, I shall never know! Now of course we have the magnificent site at Weedon, which has enabled the Show to grow, and gives the visitors, traders and competitors a truly wonderful experience.

This year the day dawned with thick mist, but that is infinitely preferable to rain, and as the sun got up so the mist lifted, and the Show Ground could be seen in all its glory. What an incredible feat of organisation it is with the five show rings, the myriad of traders stands, the competition tents, the members area, and acres and acres of parking. I was astounded by the transformation from the previous day when the show ground had an air of organised chaos! I do congratulate the team who put the show together, and I have infinite admiration for their vision and execution of the plan.

The morning passed in a flash as I visited the cattle and sheep pens, seeing them being prepared for showing, and then being invited to present a few prizes. It is so exciting to see the pride with which the animals are shown and pleasing to see that farmers still wish to preserve the heritage of rare breeds, and continue to make the time to come to a traditional Agricultural Show. Moving on into the competition tents, my eyes were literally popping out of my head at the size and quality of the flowers and vegetables on show. It was fascinating to be given the chance to hear how the judging takes place, and what makes a prize winning exhibit. The trade stands are magnificent, with an extraordinary variety of goods, and I, along with the crowds of visitors really enjoyed sampling food and drink, and chatting with the trade stands holders. As lunchtime beckoned, we moved into the President's tent and then the only rain of the day fell whilst we were safely under canvas! The undoubted highlight of the day was the musical ride of the

Mounted Cavalry. They rode with such precision and panache, and gave us a totally thrilling display. I felt so proud to be taking the salute. It was a courageous decision to celebrate 150 years of the show by booking the Cavalry, involving as it did a great deal of extra work, but it proved to be a real triumph! As the sun sunk lower in the sky we welcomed the hounds from four different hunts, and the children bounded into the ring to share in the excitement. And so as my day as President drew to a close, I looked back on a very special privilege.

150 years ago the first county show was staged to promote agriculture through competition, the exchange of ideas and the development of equipment. Today our rural community is celebrated in all its facets. The competitions are still hotly contended, with the riders achieving an incredibly high standard, the livestock in the Grand Parade are magnificent, and the trade stands demonstrate the advances which have been made in the industry. The value of a traditional agricultural show in promoting rural life in all its aspects cannot be underestimated and we are indeed most fortunate that we have a dedicated team keen to promote the County Show into the future. I wish The Earl of Buckinghamshire all the very best for the 2018 Show and hope that he enjoys his role as President as much as I have this last year.

150th BUCKS COUNTY SHOW

What a fantastic day the 150th Show turned out to be. We are proud to have been able to celebrate this momentous occasion and what a wonderful day it was. We underestimate what an achievement it is to reach 150 years. None of this would have been possible without the help and support from you all, from sponsors who give financially, stewards who give time voluntarily, members who keep the organisation going, exhibitors, judges, traders and to the numerous visitors who come through the gates. Thank you to you all.

Thank you to all who supported the raffle and the celebratory evening back in November. We have been able to donate £1000 to Thames Valley Air Ambulance and we were delighted to present a cheque to them recently. Thank you to the following who kindly donated raffle/auction prizes: Parrott & Coales, Freeths, The Black Boy - Oving, Fieldstead Insolvency, Gail Pearson Jewellery, Tutty's Turkeys, The George and Dragon - Quainton, Robinson & Hall, Andrew Dewhurst, Heygates, Sue Leggett, Joy Tetley, Ellacotts, Green Dragon Rare Breeds Farm & Eco Centre, George Browns, Countrywide, Penn's Flowers, George Anson, Hartwell House and Wingbury Farm Glamping.

Plans are well underway for the 151st Show which will be held on Thursday 30th August 2018 and we look forward to the next 150 years!



This years date for the diary – Thursday 30th August 2018

HOW OUR TRADE STANDS MARKED '150' YEARS



CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS – 2017

HORSES:

Hunter Breeding - Mare: Mr S Pullan – Jaguar Moon
 Hunter Breeding - Young Hunter: HM The Queen – Lancer IV
 In-Hand Competition Horse: Mrs J Townshend – Classic Top Up & At It
 Ridden Hunter: Miss J Smith – Alfie Connor
 Working Hunter: Mrs F Spencer – Bay Gabriel
 Overall M & M In-Hand: HM The Queen – Murthwaite Sarah
 M & M Open Ridden: Mrs J Somerset – Tesremos Top Bear
 Riding Horse: Mrs J Bennetts – Firstman
 Hack Breeding: Mrs E Edwards-Brady – Runnon Daisy May
 Riding Horse Breeding: Mrs V Smith – Inspector Montablano
 Cobs: Mrs C West – Gallifrey
 Hacks: Miss K Ellicott – Ducal Le Basier De La Fee
 In-Hand Skewbald & Piebald: Mr M Edmonds – Maylands The Governor
 BSPA RIHS Championship: Mrs H Townshend-Ward – Mr Nigel
 Mountain & Moorland WHP RIHS: Miss A Smith – Dougal of Dykes
 Local Working Hunter Pony: Mrs C Watts – Ballyboher Duchess
 Show Pony in Hand: Mr & Mrs B Rennocks – Revolution Song
 Part-Bred In-Hand: Mrs J Godden – Rhos Exotic

CATTLE:

Jersey – Barnowl Jersey Stud
 Supreme Dairy – Barnowl Jersey Stud
 Aberdeen Angus – Temple Farm (Chedzoy)
 Charolais – Mortimers Farm Ltd
 Dexters – Mr R & Miss J Lewis
 Hereford – Sky Herefords
 Limousin – Barwood & Padfield
 Simmental – D A Sapsed
 AOB Native – Mr D Howden
 AOB Continental – J & W Laight
 Overall Native – Sky Herefords
 Overall Continental – Barwood & Padfield
 Supreme Beef – Barwood & Padfield
 Commercial Beef – Mr MJ Dickens & Family

SHEEP:

Berrichon – T Stayt
 Charollais – GC & CJ Watson
 Southdown – Mr B Cooper
 Texel – R Kellet
 Wiltshire Horn – JM Jeyes
 Pure Breeds (MV Acc) – Miss E South
 Rare Native Breeds (Non MV) – Knowles & Brown
 Other Native Breeds (Non MV) – Knowles & Brown
 Cross Breeds – GE Haynes & Sons
 Interbreed Group of Three – G C & C J Watson
 Butchers Lambs – Mr S Clark
 Supreme Sheep – R Kellet



PAST AND PRESENT PRESIDENTS, CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES

BACK ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

MHD Barlow, J Johns, PA Parrott, Lord Gardiner of Kimble, WD Prosser, AM Jackson, The Hon Rupert Carington, RRC Ginger, SPK Alexander, AJG Alexander, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher, GR Anson, RP Goodchild, Mrs J Nicholson, HJ Cox.

FRONT ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

Mrs A Baylis, WAS Hall, JAG Wilkinson, Countess Howe, R Skipworth, The Hon Mrs Rupert Soames, Baron FC von Oppenheim, Mrs D Amies.

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