NADAS NEWSLETTER

April 2024

NADAS - Registered Charity (1003898) aiming to promote and enhance agriculture, horticulture, forestry, rural crafts and skills and to the benefit of the countryside and the general public.

Another show season upon us and the Showground has opened up after the winter break and ready for the many events planned - the highlight being the 2024 Newbury Show. All made possible by the Board and the much-appreciated dedication of our Staff and Volunteer Committees.

After the successful return of Newbury Show in 2023, The Newbury & District Agricultural Society is thrilled to announce that Newbury Show will be making a comeback this September, with Ramsbury Estates once again supporting as Headline Sponsor.

The 2023 Show attracted 32,000+ visitors and received tremendous reviews. The Show showcased all aspects of farming & rural life in the area. Crops, agricultural technology, animals, artisan products, rural education, country pastimes, local produce and many other aspects of country life.

The Show offers something for all the family, incorporating Main Ring & Countryside Arena displays, Cookery demonstrations, excellent shopping, an unsurpassed Food Hall experience, Craft Marquee, Rural Crafts, have-a-go activities plus all the traditions of a County Show including agricultural machinery, vintage displays and the hugely popular 'Grand Parade of Livestock'.

Also returning in 2024 is the 'Local Producers' area, which gives local businesses the perfect opportunity to raise awareness and build their brand, to a large audience.

The Show offers its sponsors, exhibitors and traders a wonderful platform to promote, sell, raise profile and meet customers over two action packed days in September every year.

So please come and support us !

Advanced trade stand bookings are now open - plus a range of space sizes to suit any business.
It's easy to book, just head over to our online booking on our website: www.newburyshow.co.uk

Show 2024

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Show 2024

Visitor Tickets.

Early bird visitor tickets are now available:
https://newburyshow.ticketsrv.co.uk/tickets/

www.newburyshowground.co.uk

2024 Show has confirmed: Livestock competitions, The 'Farm' (mini petting farm), Education Village Green (lots of FREE have a go's & activities!), Heavy Horse village, The Sheep Show, Vintage Machinery & Steam Engines, Cookery Demos, Food and Farming zone, Countryside Area, Bee and Honey Tent, Live Music, Food and Drink, Vintage Funfair, Local Produce and Crafts, Grand Parade of Livestock, British National Scurry Driving, Machinery Pageant, Hot Air Balloons, Army Zone and much, much more...

SHOW HOSTS WANTED!

To improve the Show experience for our visitors we are introducing **Show Hosts** who will be positioned inside each pedestrian entrance. The aim is to welcome our guests to the Showground, help answer queries and give directions.

Show Hosts will be under the supervision of Alan Pooles, a former Show Chairman, who is joining our 2024 team. If selected, you will need to be active, be able to stand for long periods, and enjoy interacting with our guests. Show Hosts will receive an entry ticket, free parking and, dependent on hours worked, a meal voucher.

Do you think that this might be for you?

Please contact Paul Frankel paul.frankel@nadas.co.uk

We have ambitious plans to build on the awareness of the environment, nature, sustainability, biodiversity and to promote local organisations who have climate change projects and initiatives. We are launching 2 new areas to the 2024 show:

1. The 'West Berkshire Community Sustainability and Biodiversity Area' Aim is to provide 20x local West Berkshire community, voluntary projects/groups, or small charities with a free stand & tickets. These small but mighty groups are working to ensure that we as a county address issues of climate change and sustainability, so NADAS will give them a space to voice and share their practical knowledge and experiences - and our visitors will gain FREE activities and hands-on understanding. To register your interest to take part please contact Claire Jones nadas@nadas.co.uk or claire.jones@nadas.co.uk.

2. The 'West Berkshire Schools Sustainability Competition' will be communicated to every school in West Berkshire inviting them to design a sustainable community and present it in the Education Tent at the Show. NADAS has a long history of supporting schools in the Show Education Tent. The schools' displays in response to the sustainability competition will be judged on Saturday and the winning schools will get a financial prize and a book signed by Sir David Attenborough.

Brand New Sponsorship Package for 2024 Show

The '24 Show will launch 2 brand new Showground Areas:

1. West Berkshire Community Sustainability and Biodiversity Area
2. West Berkshire Schools Sustainability Competition

These new areas are now available to sponsor & support @£2,000. (per area - full sponsorship package).
To register interest or for information contact Claire Jones at nadas@nadas.co.uk

Showground Maintenance

Showground Volunteers have continued clearing, tidying and work has started on cleaning off and re-painting the trade stand posts and numbers, as well as clearing the overgrown areas inside the Chapman and Blue Circle Gates. One major task has been undertaken - several of the ash trees on the Showground had already succumbed to ash dieback and planning ahead, it was decided to replace these so that the avenue alongside Priors Court Road was not 'bare'. With the generous sponsorship of the Eling Estate (who were also responsible for the planting of many of the existing trees on the Showground in the early days) and with the advice and planting assistance of John Handy, 24 trees (a mix of flowering cherry, beech, sweet chestnut and lime) have now been planted around the Showground. One beech has been planted on the opposite side of the Chapman building to balance up with the original one.

The Society would particularly wish to thank The Eling Estate who through their generosity and commitment to the natural environment have paid for the trees. They will be a greatly appreciated asset to the Showground to be enjoyed for years to come.

If Saturdays are difficult but you have time in the week, let us know what type of practical tasks you could help with and we will be able to find you a job!

If you are interested, please contact Linda Bowden or Mick Crockford: ljbowden883@gmail.com mickthepig@btinternet.com

John Day Engineering have kindly supplied and sponsored the use of a new Iseki tractor mower for us to use at the Showground. Pictured is Managing Director Chris Day handing over this wonderful machine to our NADAS Chairman Steve Ackrill.

In memory

On the morning of the 18th April Geoffrey Wallis died peacefully at home in the company of his wife Diana and his family. He was a great friend and supporter of the Society and our Chairman in 1988, following on from his father George who was show Chairman in 1953. Geoff was a local Farmer and was very active within the local community, he will be remembered for his warmth, keen interest and support of the Society and the wider community. He had an infectious sense of humour and I'm sure all those who new him will have extremely fond memories of the fun and ready friendship Geoff exuded.

Events

On Farm Competition:

Andrew Chandler has now passed on the Chairmans role to Hamish Wardrop. Hamish is both a farmer and agronomist. Hamish is very much looking forward to the role and working with the committee to make this year's On Farm Competitions a success.

All information including this year's schedule can be found on our website: www.newburyshowground.co.uk
TO ENTER please go to website link:
The Show Schedule for Newbury Show 2024 Sep 2024 - Showing Scene.

If you would like to volunteer to be part of 'the team' in any capacity, committee, driver, judge, or competitor please contact Hamish at hamish.wardrop@agrovista.co.uk or contact the Showground office: nadas@nadas.co.uk Tel: 01635 247111.

The Newbury Ploughing Match is very pleased to be returning to Rookery Farm, Curridge on Saturday 19th October by kind permission of Dan Willis and Sandy Gilbert.

Ploughing Match Sat 19 October

We look forward to having a good entry of tractor ploughmen and the return of horse ploughmen.
There will be a public display of traditional steam engines alongside miniature engines. Plus, a variety of trade stands & refreshments.

Fun for all the family!

THE NEWBURY & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Events held so far on the Showground this year include, Wheels Day (originally the Hot Rod and Custom Show), Land Rover and 4by4 Vintage Spares, All about Dogs, one of the UK's premier dog events, Newbury Garden Show.

Also coming up - The Southern Motorhome and Caravan Show, Reading and District Kennel Association Premier Show, Southern Counties Canine Association Championship and Berkshire Young Farmers Country Fayre.

Finances

The Society's finances remain stable, with this year's lettings diary almost full. On going work continues, carrying out maintenance to the showground and buildings. Bookings for this year's Show are ahead of last year and we are hopeful that we will see and increase in visitor numbers..... once it stops raining!

AGM

This year's AGM will be held on Thursday 27th June at the Society building on the Showground. Please let us know if you have changed your postal address or contact details. Notices will be sent out on 23rd May.

If you would like to make a charitable donation to NADAS
please contact: Susan Layton at: accounts@nadas.co.uk 01635 247111
All donations go towards fulfilling NADAS charitable aims
Registered Charity (1003898)

Education

The Potato Challenge for Schools is a regular feature in the Education programme and 2024 is no exception.

Back in March local schools attended a morning in the building at the showground where they indulged in all thing's potato themed.
Potato cakes were decorated with bright coloured icing sugar and sprinkles before being safely stored in tummies, potato soup was enjoyed, the story of the invention of crisps was told and most important of all, seed potatoes were planted into grow bags to be nurtured back at schools before returning to harvest in June.

The following week the building was again put to good use with the arrival of the year 6 pupils from Enborne Primary School for a morning all about practical orienteering. Fortunately, the weather was kind that morning and the building was just used as a base with the children mostly being outside, working with their compasses to establish which direction was north before following compass directions and looking for controls using a map of the area.

Jan's not too sure what the sheep made of it all, grazing in the main arena on this particular day. Their normally quiet time was certainly disturbed!

The building certainly comes into its own when schools wish to visit the showground as a day's activities can be planned confident in the knowledge that whatever the weather chooses to do, there is a covered, dry and reasonably warm area to make use of. In the next few weeks three more visits are scheduled to take place, covering topics such as team building, colour and senses.

The children will be outside as much as possible in the large, safe area of the showground but with the option to retreat as and when required into the building. It is a great resource for supporting these visits.

Jan Murray
Education@nadas.co.uk

So many West Berkshire Primary Schools find it difficult to finance the coach travel to visit the Showground for Educational Activities. If you wish to donate to NADAS (Charity 1003898)) to help fund these initiatives please contact Susan Layton: accounts@nadas.co.uk

All donations go towards fulfilling NADAS charitable aims

In May & June we are planning to work on improving the NADAS website and how it is used by the general public WWW.NEWBURYSHOWGROUND.CO.UK The site will include comprehensive information about the Society, Newbury Show, Sponsorship, Ticket Sales, Education, Membership information, our long history and easy to understand general visitor information and Showground Rentals.
- Please bare with us its not a quick fix!