



ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Presidents since 1947

1947	Mrs Charles Round	1988	The Lady Butler of Saffron Walden
1948	Col Sir Francis Whitmore KCB CMG DSO TD	1989	JHM Norris Esq CBE DL
1949	The Rt Hon Lord Braybrooke	1990	The Lord Braybrooke JP
1950	The Rt Hon Lord Braintree	1991	LA Jordan Esq DL
1951	Lt Col EN Buxton MC DL JP	1992	The Rt Revd Thomas McMahon
1952	JJ Tufnell Esq JP	1993	The Lord Dixon-Smith DL
1953	Col Sir Francis Whitmore KCB CMG DSO TD	1994	EJC Speakman Esq JP
1954	CMD Gooch Esq	1995	CG Gooch Esq DL
1955	Lt Col Sir John Ruggles-Brise Bart OBE TD DL	1996	DA Nutting Esq DL
1956	Col Sir Francis Whitmore Bart KCB CMG DSO TD	1997	GL Lyster Esq DL
1957	JR Tinney Esq MBE	1998	Prof MD Alder
1958	Mrs Gerald Strutt	1999	HDP Rankin Esq JP
1959	J Oxley Parker Esq TD JP DL	2000	R F Erith, Esq TD DL
1960	Alec Steele Esq JP	2001	R G Newman Esq DL
1961	The Rt Hon RA Butler CH MP	2002	R G. Newman Esq DL
1962	Lt Col Guy Blewitt DSO MC DL	2003	Mrs C Cottrell DL
1963	Mrs ML Griffith OBE JP	2004	C Pertwee Esq DL
1964	Sir Hubert Ashton KBE MC DL MP	2005	J E Fowler Esq
1965	Major G Nigel Capel-Cure TD JP DL	2006	P Fairs Esq
1966	CH Gosling Esq MC TD JP DL	2007	T Howie Esq
1967	SR Allsopp Esq CBE	2008	J Macaulay Esq
1968	JG Eve Esq MA	2009	R Simons Esq
1969	Lt Col Sir John Ruggles-Brise Bart CB OBE TD JP	2010	R Matthews Esq
1970	MS Gosling Esq	2011	J Tinney Esq
1971	Sir Leonard Crossland	2012	D Squier Esq DL
1972	Sir Nigel Strutt TD DL FRAGS	2013	M Hodge Esq
1973	Col JF Cramphorn CdeG TD DL	2014	C Butler Esq DL
1974	Lt Col JG Round OBE JP DL	2015	S Marriage Esq
1975	PB Lake Esq TD DL	2016	M Ritchie Esq
1976	CWO Parker Esq JP DL	2017	Mrs C Hutley DL
1977	RH Courage Esq JP DL		
1978	Sir Richard Butler DL		
1979	HR Ritchie Esq DL		
1980	T Hunnable Esq		
1981	Admiral Sir Andrew Lewis KCB JP		
1982	JH Radbourne Esq JP DL		
1983	Col GR Judd TD DL		
1984	J Tabor Esq OBE DL		
1985	PB Frost Esq		
1986	D Keddie Esq JP DL		
1987	Capt RP Laurie OBE JP DL		

ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Registered Office: Writtle University College
Lordship Road
Writtle
Essex CM1 3RR

Principal Office: Writtle University College
Lordship Road
Writtle
Essex CM1 3RR

A Company limited by guarantee – registered in England

Certificate of Incorporation: 2768733

Registered Charity: 1015875

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc
Barclays Business Centre
Witham Branch
P O Box 3692
Witham
Essex CM8 2AT

Investment Managers: Investec Wealth & Investment
2 Gresham Street
London EC2V 7QN

Treasurer: Miss Prudence Helen McTurk
Spinney Cottage
School Lane
Abbees Roding
CM5 ONY

Independent Examiner: Graham Page
Ensors Accountants LLP
Saxon House
Moseley's Farm Business Centre
Fornham All Saints
Bury St Edmunds
IP28 6JY

ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Notice is hereby given that the Twenty Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Members of the above limited company will be held on 22nd November 2017 at 6pm in the Sports Science Centre (SSC1) Writtle College, Chelmsford.

H C Tarrant
Company Secretary

AGENDA

- 1. Chairman's Welcome**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Receive and, if approved, adopt Chairman's Report** (including minutes of the AGM held on 23rd November 2016 and Accounts for the period 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017.
- 4. Election of Officers for 2017-18**
 - Honorary Life President
 - Honorary President
 - President
 - President Elect
 - Members of Council
- 5. Presentation**
- 6. Vote of Thanks**
- 7. Time and Date of Next Meeting**

A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting will be entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his place. A proxy need not be a member.

ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Patron:	Mrs Jennifer Tolhurst LL
President:	Catharine Hutley
President Elect:	Joanna Philpot
Chairman:	Belinda Young
Vice Chairman:	Edward Worthy

COUNCIL

Elected Members

Retire 2017

Mike Porter
Tim Cooper
Catharine Hutley

Retire 2018

Belinda Young
Adrian Rilstone
Kayleigh Mackness

Retire 2019

Rob Stacey
Edward Worthy

Co-opted Members*

R Alexander, R Burroughs, Karen Watson, Stephen Waite, Prudence Helen McTurk, Rosemary Padfield, Annabelle Rout, C Trembath, Fiona Ashworth, D Bradshaw, Lynne Squier, Emily Swift

*Co opted members retire after one year unless reappointed

Co-opted Representatives of Other Organisations

None

By the powers invested in it by the Articles of Association dated 27 September 1992, the Society is administered by the Council. The Council of the Society consists of the President, President Elect, the Members elected at an Annual General Meeting, co-opted Members and co-opted Representatives of other organisations, provided that no Council Member has been absent from four consecutive meetings without the knowledge and approval of the Council.

ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

The Directors present their annual report and the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 August 2017.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs and of the profit or loss for the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

The directors are responsible for:

- Keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.
- Safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the Company as outlined in the Memorandum of Association of 27 September 1992 are:

- To promote and advance agriculture for the benefit of the public and to such end generally to improve and publicise it in all its branches and to encourage skill and industry in it and in all trades, crafts and professions connection with it.
- If in the opinion of the Council it shall be expedient so to do, the Society may in any year in respect of which Council so resolve to hold, manage, sponsor or otherwise be concerned with a County Show.

BUSINESS REVIEW

The results for the year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities elsewhere in this booklet.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Society has maintained the success built up over the years with the continual support of its members.

The membership at the end of August was, split as follows:

	2016	2017
Category		
Corporate Premier	20	20
Corporate Standard	1	1
Individual	126	123
Joint Life Member	4	4
Joint Member	114	113
Life Member	78	74
Under 30	31	20
TOTAL	374	355

Two years have passed by very quickly which I take as a good sign and this moment of handover has come at a remarkably convenient moment (assuming when I write this in mid-October that my baby has stuck to the plan) as I take a step back to have my first child and hand over the reins to Edward Worthy.

Reviewing the year is always a pleasure and it has been another varied and interesting collection of events which the EAS has been involved in.

The EAS 2016/17 season kicked off with a bang with an evening with Tracey Mackness of the Giggly Pig, her company which produces its own sausages and other pork products from her rare breed pigs. Tracy was an amazing orator with an incredible story to tell, from a slightly wayward start, via a lengthy spell in prison where she found her love for all things porcine to starting and growing her business to the successful enterprise it is today. All who came along to the Essex Young Farmers' Centre were impressed with her and her story and put their money where their mouth is, purchasing her book and her sausages at the end.

Our first event of 2017 was planned as a talk from Robin Page at Ingatestone Hall but a bout of illness, whilst unfortunate for Robin, proved fortunate for us as we were able to secure Arthur Edwards, the Sun's royal photographer as a last minute replacement. Arthur's dedication to the royal family means that he is not able to commit to anything too far ahead and so when Rosemary spoke to him on the Monday before the event on the Friday, it was a yes, subject to any births/deaths/marriages. His talk ranged from his very early days capturing the emerging romance between Charles & Diana (including that picture of her legs in a long skirt with the light behind), through to a regimental parade he had captured that morning. Hats off to Rosemary Alexander who turned a minor panic into a major success and thank you to Lord Petre for letting us use Ingatestone Hall.

In April we held our bi-annual quiz at Wickham Bishop's village hall. Despite facing some strong competition from a large Essex wedding with two big farming family names, a corporate quiz having been held the evening before and it being the bank holiday, we managed a good turnout with some very keen quizzers in the mix. As usual the standard of picnic suppers was impressive, although I only saw one that managed candelabra. Thank you to Jim Crafford for being an excellent quiz master – hopefully he can be persuaded to return in two years' time!

The big event of the year, our 10th Essex Schools Food and Farming Day, was this year at Writtle on the 7th June. Despite some foul weather on the set-up day, the sun shone on the event and we hosted a further 3,000 school children. A great range of long-standing exhibitors and some new blood

entertained the children, stewards and guests splendidly and engaged their audiences, hopefully long into the future. As a special occasion, we ran a competition for the best scare-crows and it was heartening to see how involved the children had become in creating some genuine works of art – including an Ann Boleyn proudly standing with her head in her arms, an enormous black crow complete with feathers and a poem written by the children and the winning entry all about South America which the children had been learning about. It certainly made an impressive entrance to the showground and we hope to repeat the competition next year.

A huge thank you for all of the support we receive on this project from the farmer stewards who bring the day to life, the exhibitors who maintain their enthusiasm throughout the day, to Writtle University College for hosting the event and helping with staffing it, to all those suppliers who provided us with produce for the VIP lunch and to the excellent team who put the whole day together. I've a special mention for the holy trinity of Karen Watson, Rosemary Padfield and Heather Tarrant who really are the driving force behind it all and have been since its inception. They put so much into making the day a success.

The President's Garden Party was ably hosted this year at Camsix Farm by kind invitation of our President, Catharine Hutley and her husband, Philip. The weather was kind as a good turnout mingled on the lawn and enjoyed drinks and canapes in lovely surroundings. It was pleasing to have a good number of long service awards to present as well as the President's Award, recognising those just making their way into business.

It is worth mentioning here that we are trying to make more of the President's Award and hope that will encourage nominations and recognise the wealth of young talented people making great strides in our County. Going forward, we hope to be able to make a small award to the winner and provide support as they develop their businesses.

This year's Farm Walk took us to Kit & Judy Speakman's farm at Little Braxted on 12 July. It was another great turnout and those that did make it were in for a fascinating evening given just how much they pack into their farming enterprises. We started with a tour around their farm buildings which have mainly been converted to a range of uses, including an indoor tennis court. Up onto the tractors & trailers and we set off around the farm to view their various activities which ranged from cricket bat willows to an extensive HLS Scheme, taking in some very easy care sheep on the way. The weather was perfect for an evening outdoors and all attendees left with the impression that the Speakmans were worthy winners.

We are yet to have any events this autumn following the postponement of the conference but Edward is already giving consideration to a similar event in 2018. Our final event of the year will be held at the Young Farmers Centre on 29 November, when David Piper of the National Trust will be taking us through their activities in Essex & South Suffolk.

To conclude, I would like to thank the whole Council for their support over the past two years; for coming along to meetings and contributing and generally being active. I am eternally grateful to Rosemary Alexander for continuing to produce interesting and varied speakers at our events and for coming up with some great ideas for alternative events too. I've mentioned the organisers of the Food & Farming Day above but don't think it's over-doing it to say again how important their work is to the society in making our flagship event such a continuing success. Heather has been a constant source of useful information and help and I am very grateful to her for making my job so easy. I hand over to Edward with confidence that it will be a smooth transition and another successful two years for the Society.

ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting of the Annual General Meeting held on 23rd November 2016

In RBC1, Writtle University College

Belinda Young presiding

Attended: Rosemary Alexander (RA), Fiona Ashworth (FA), Roger Burroughs (RB), Prudence Helen McTurk (PHM), Kayleigh Mackness (KM), Rosemary Padfield (RP), Adrian Rilstone (AR), John Roberts (JDR), Robert Stacey (RS), Lynne Squier (LS), Dan Squier (DS), Chris Trembath (CT), Karen Watson (KW), Stephen Waite (SW), Edward Worthy (EW)

Apologies: David Bradshaw, Lord Petre, Martin Ritchie, Anthony Lyster, Catharine Hutley, Mr & Mrs Lyster, Mike Porter, Tim Cooper

In Attendance: H Tarrant

EAS16/1	<p>CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME</p> <p>The Chairman read the notice convening the 23rd Annual General Meeting of the Essex Agricultural Society and welcomed members to the meeting. The Chairman called for a minutes silence to remember Alan Cole, Tom Matthews and Robert Collins who have passed away in the last year.</p>	
EAS16/2	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies were received from the people listed above</p>	
EAS16/3	<p>ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS</p> <p>The minutes of the 22nd Annual General Meeting held on 25th November 2015 were agreed and signed</p> <p>The Accounts were called to be adopted and this was agreed</p>	
EAS16/4	<p>ELECTION OF OFFICERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honorary President – Catharine Hutley proposed by Rosemary Padfield seconded by Karen Watson • Vice President – no nominations were made at the AGM • Members of Council Rosemary Padfield and Fiona Ashworth retire by rotation leaving Belinda Young, Mike Porter, Tim Cooper, Adrian Rilstone and Kayleigh Mackness as elected members for 2016-17. The Chairman proposes that Edward Worth and Rob Stacey are elected members for the next 3 years until 2019. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-opted members Chairman proposes Rosemary Alexander, Roger Burroughs, Karen Watson, Stephen Waite, Prudence Helen McTurk, Rosemary Padfield, Annabelle Rout, Chris Trembath, Fiona Ashworth, David Bradshaw, Lynne Squier and Emily Swift 	
EAS16/5	<p>ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION</p> <p>The updated Articles of Association were presented at the AGM and it was agreed that BY and EW would now ask Gepp's to formalise the documents.</p>	BY/EW
EAS16/6	<p>PRESENTATION</p> <p>John Roberts stood down as Treasurer and Council member at the AGM and BY thanked John for all his hard work over the last 12 years helping at events and was an excellent Quiz Master . John was also honoured this year with a Doctorate from Writtle University college. BY also offered her thanks to Enid, John's wife, for all her support at events. BY then presented John with a gift in appreciation.</p>	
EAS16/7	<p>VOTE OF THANKS FROM THE CHAIR</p> <p>The Chair thanked Council for all their hard work in driving the society forward.</p> <p>Unfortunately Martin Ritchie was unable to attend the meeting but had sent a letter thanking the Society for his enjoyable year as President.</p>	
EAS16/8	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>None</p>	
EAS16/9	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>22nd November 2017</p>	