

HECKINGTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY



152nd Heckington Show Annual Report 2019

The largest village show in England

Registered Charity No: 1108829
Company No: 5141838

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR HECKINGTON & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Our 152nd show was always going to be a very special one as we celebrated one of the things that make Heckington Show stand out from the crowd- our fantastic cycling tradition. 2019 marked the 150th anniversary of our first ever cycle race- one of the very first ever recorded, and the only event that is still continuing all those years later – making Heckington the oldest continuing race in the world. We ensured the occasion was commemorated, with a penny farthing event on our track, as well as the usual exceptional standard of racing including the national 8km championship. It was a fitting finale to Dave Kennedy's highly successful tenure as cycling secretary. We are truly grateful to Dave for all he has done to not only continue but to develop our cycling tradition, including establishing the



The 10 mile road race had a record entry this year at 400 runners.

In last year's report, I mentioned our plans to continue to develop the 10 mile road race. The decision to apply for a temporary road closure of Littleworth Drove during the race meant that it was felt appropriate to increase the number of entrants to 400. All the spaces were taken up, and the 400 runners at the start of the race made an impressive sight in the main ring. We are grateful to the residents of the Fen for their co-operation and understanding with this. As we increase the opportunities for participation in the show, we are keen to maintain its community feel and connection with the village and were delighted to be presented with a trophy for the fastest Heckington runner.

Another key feature of the main ring is our unique "flat-pack" grandstand specially designed to fit



The Penny Farthing event celebrated 150 years of cycle racing at Heckington and its place as probably the oldest cvclina race in the world.

important county youth championship. This has been the catalyst for a county-wide series of events which have done much to engage and inspire the next generation. We are delighted Dave will continue to be involved as cycling commentator, and much appreciate his pro-activity in recruiting Simon Hare as an excellent successor



The newly refurbished grandstand and some of the team at the Health & Safety briefing before the Show



The distinctive red and white cover of the grandstand is the centrepiece of the main ring - here with the Romford Royal British Legion Band

within the constraints of our show field. Now over 45 years old, the decision was taken to completely renew the main structure. We are enormously grateful to Paul Elderkin, James Oxby and Geoff Stead who put in a tremendous amount of work over the winter to not only replace but upgrade the main framework. With its distinctive red and white roof, the grandstand is an iconic and much-loved feature of the show and much appreciated by those who like some cover and comfort whilst enjoying our spectacular main ring programmes. The experience of our visitors is hugely important to us and goes to the very heart of the organisation that we are. That experience starts from the moment people enter the showground if not before. We have set ourselves the medium-term goal of having representatives of the Society at each of our four gates for the entire show, to welcome visitors, deal with anomalies as they



The wet weather kept visitor numbers down, but those who came still managed to enjoy themselves.

arise courteously and efficiently, and provide additional oversight for our paid gate staff. An excellent start was made in 2019 led by Matt Brown and Glenn Albrighton and we will be developing this further in 2020.

That interaction was taken to a new level this year as we dealt with the consequences of what was probably the worst weather over the show itself that was ever experienced. The week leading up to the show was exceptionally hot – to the point that the main ring had to be watered to avoid it becoming too hard. However, on the Saturday morning it started to rain and carried on for most of the day. We were able to hold all the events



The Vintage Tractor parade managed to make it into the main ring, but the Showjumping had to be cancelled due to the soft ground

except the Heavy Horse Parade. It was particularly pleasing that the penny farthing events arranged specially to celebrate 150 years of cycling were able to go ahead. Mercifully the rain eased off for the evening concert where Madness tribute Gladness were a hit with the crowd as were our good friends the Sleaford Concert Band. The grounds were regularly inspected during the day with the conclusion that if the overnight rain was limited to that forecast the impact on our second day would also be limited. Unfortunately overnight rain was continuous and heavy, leading to challenging ground conditions and the need to make some difficult decisions. A 6am course inspection concluded that with areas of standing

water in our main ring the showjumping classes needed to be cancelled on safety grounds. The area of the new field that had been cultivated and re-seeded by the showground owners had become unusable so the decision was taken to close this part of the ground – mainly occupied by trade stands - and to offer them a refund of their Sunday



The livestock show had a record entry again this year, despite the weather

fee. The Incident team visited each trade stand to explain the position. Many of our events did go ahead including the flower show, concert marquee and our largest ever turnout of livestock. Steps were taken to ensure that as much of the show could proceed as possible including arranging our stalwart team of volunteer tractor drivers, and a group of 4x4's to ferry the Romford Band from their coach to the main ring. Finally,



There were good crowds at the concert marquee enjoying the performances between the showers.

a show official was placed at each gate to make sure visitors knew the position before buying tickets. Numbers were down, but many of our

enthusiastic supporters came determined to make the best of things and enjoy a show in wellies. It can be seen from some of the quotes and feedback we received how much all the effort that went into ensuring the show went ahead was greatly appreciated and admired – it was definitely worth doing.

It does take an enormous amount of effort to put on a show of the scale and quality of Heckington, and it is quite remarkable that it is done by a committed band of volunteers. The success of the show relies on that commitment over many years – from people such as Michael Cullen who sadly passed away this year having served for over 40 years, and those such as Jackie Goodall who step forward to take on key roles such as Heritage Secretary. That is what makes Heckington Show so special



The Heritage Area was very popular with plenty of exhibitors and demonstrations undercover to help get away from the weather

Taking the longer view, we are already advanced with plans to mitigate the impact of wet weather in the future. And all the effort put into previous shows and resulting financial success over the last 20 or more years means that despite the challenges of 2019 and the financial loss incurred we are able to plan confidently for what promises to be another hugely enjoyable show in 2020

Charles Pinchbeck
Chairman

Sponsors & Donations

Heckington & District Agricultural Society is fortunate to have very generous support via sponsorship, donations and help for the many different sections.

1 Stop Spas

Anglian Home Improvements

Burdens Group Ltd

Bamboo Connections

Charles Taylor Trading

Chattertons

Crafts & Gifts Consortium

Cropley Suzuki

Corteva Agriscience

Divine Inspiration Interiors

John W Doubleday Ltd

Drayton Motors

Duckworth Land Rover & Isuzu

Duncan & Toplis

Eric Spencer Ltd

Eye Level Optical

FAFF

Fibreactive

Fold Hill Foods

Gary Simpson Butchers

Gilchrist Confectionery

Heckington Windmill

Heckington Windmill Shop

Howell Manor Bespoke Events

Irvin Confectionery

Joules

Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders Associatn

Lincolnshire Co-op

Listers BMW & Mini

Melbourne Holdings

Meridian Meats of Louth

Melbourne Holdings

Modessa

Mojo's Hairdressers

NFU Mutual

NKDC

Osborne Blinds

Premier Garden Furniture

Sleaford MOT Centre

SRP Hire Solutions

Streets Accountants

The Event Gallery

The Handbag Company

Thompson & Richardson

Town & Country Law

Twells of Billingham

Vertu Honda

The Wright Family, Heckington



Thanks to all the businesses and sponsors who support the show in so many different areas.



Our Sponsors include many local businesses who support us over the years.

Acknowledgements

Heckington & District Agricultural Society is fortunate to have very generous support from the local community, businesses and organisations —without whom the show would be unable to go ahead

- Janet, John & Richard Harriss for providing pedestrian access to Showground via Hall Lawn
- Courton Green and A&T Greetham for their help
- The St John Ambulance Brigade for First Aid Services
- Doubledays & Burdens and Messrs P Asher, B Cullen & Sons, M Sardeson, S Needham, & S Maplethorpe for loan of equipment
- J H Baxter & Son for transport services and loan of equipment
- The East of England, Deeping & Rutland Shows for loan of equipment
- Turners Distribution and J L Priestley Ltd for providing trailers for the concert stage
- Mr & Mrs Graham Doughty & Mr & Mrs Lewin for the loan of caravans
- Sleaford Rabbit Club for organising the Rabbit Show
- Florida Trophies for Engraving
- Lincoln Red Cattle Society, Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders Association, Lincoln Buff Poultry Society for their displays
- Mr & Mrs G Bolton for providing Lincoln Red Cattle Displays
- Pat Banister for preparing the field plans
- Donaldsons DIY and volunteers for advance ticket sales
- Chris Vaughan, Nicky Bostrom & Fiona Grisberg for photography at the show
- The many local land owners, including Messer Sharpe & Moore, Mesdames Denman & Mason, Mr & Mrs A Key
- Thanks also to Heckington Parish Council, Heckington St Andrew's School and Lindum Construction Ltd who help facilitate the show and its supporting activities
- And not forgetting the many families and friends of committee members who provide invaluable support through the year



The volunteer teams put in many hours of hard work to ensure that the show comes together.

Trustees, Officers & Committee

Trustees: Mr C A Pinchbeck Mrs J A Wright Mrs S E Grant
Mr T M Atkinson Mr M A Sardeson

Patron: The Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, Mr Toby Dennis

President: Mr Alan Stennett, BEM

Vice Presidents: Dr M J Elliott, Mr R C Musson

Life Members:

Dr M J Elliott, R Bell, H Frost, G Ireland, P Ireland, J D Kirk, R C Musson, R Pocklington, R A Hipworth, D Nickols, D Simpson, T Atkinson, P Gash, G Wright, Mrs G Atkinson, Mrs R Nickols, I Johnson, M Cullen, Mrs S Pinchbeck

Chairman: Mr Charles Pinchbeck **Vice Chairman:** Mr Mark Sardeson
Deputy Chairman: Mr Ian Johnson **General Secretary:** Mrs Sarah Grant
Treasurer: Mrs Jo Lewin **Chaplain:** Rev Ann Lett

Committee Members:

Mrs Ann Beever	Miss Jane Bowtell	Mrs Karen Clifton	Mrs Sally Pinchbeck
Mrs Elaine Sardeson	Mrs Jacqui Sinclair	Mrs Sue Spencer	Mrs Tina Stankley
Mrs Linda Stanley	Mrs Anne Watts	Mrs Jacki Wright	
Mr Peter Asher	Mr Terry Atkinson	Mr George Bell	Mr Bill Rayner
Mr Robin Bush	Mr Rolf Cinavas	Mr Michael Cullen	Mr Paul Gash
Mr Tim Grigg	Mr Adrian Johnson	Mr Des Johnson	Mr Dave Kennedy
Mr Richard Kinsey	Mr Mike Lock	Mr Nick Needham	Mr Simon Needham
Mr Sean Oxby	Mr James Oxby	Mr Richard Pick	Mr James Pinchbeck
Mr Tim Rogers	Mr Tony White	Mr Dennis Johnson	Mr Paul Elderkin

Society Members:

Mr & Mrs A Tulett	Mr & Mrs G Mountain	Mr & Mrs I Kimpton
Mr M Hudson & Ms P McBeath	Mr & Mrs G Deakin	Mr P Banister
Mr & Mrs G Barnett	Mr & Mrs I Buckthorpe	Mr & Mrs L Rudkin
Mr S Armstong & Ms B Wood	Mr & Mrs J Collard	Mr & Mrs A Thomas
Mr & Mrs C Barlow	Mr E Conlin	Mr & Mrs P Keeling
Dr M Guess	Mr & Mrs R Ball	Mr & Mrs K Smith
Mr & Mrs R Jones	Mrs S Richardson	Mr & Mrs J Morrissey
Mr & Mrs P Reid	Mr & Mrs J Williamson	Mr W Cottis
Mr T Cavill	Mr C Rowland-Jeffers	Mr & Mrs C Brummitt
Mr & Mrs J Gaddes	Mr J Wells	Mr & Mrs L Cooper
Mrs M Hillcoat	Mr & Mrs R Groves	Mr & Mrs G Rogers
Mr & Mrs B Young	Mr & Mrs C Thompson	Ms Jennie Saxby
Mr & Mrs W Berridge	Mr & Mrs M Jones	Martin Sleight & Sadie Richardson
Mr J Stevenson	Mr P Moore	Mr & Mrs G Gibson
Mr & Mrs G Hopkins	Mr & Mrs N Harvey	Mr & Mrs R Mathieson
Ms Lynn Buckberry & Ms Lisa Buckberry	Mr & Mrs Johnson	Mr & Mrs D Long

Trustees Report

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 30th September 2019.

Trustees who are the directors for the purpose of company law and served during the period and up to the date of their report were:

C A Pinchbeck, Mrs J A Wright, T M Atkinson, M A Sardeson, S E Grant

The directors held no beneficial interests in the company at any time during the period, since the company is limited by guarantee and holds no share capital.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association state that the number of members of the board shall never be less than three and that the subscribers to the memorandum and such other persons or organisations as are admitted to membership in accordance with the rules made under Article 61 shall be members of the Charity. No person shall be admitted a member of the Charity unless his application for membership is approved by the trustees.

All directors, being eligible, offer themselves for election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the company are the advancement of agriculture, horticulture and rural crafts for the benefit of the public by the holding of an annual show.

Public Benefit Reporting The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and planning future activities. All of the trustees give their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year.



The village tea tent was as popular as ever, providing hot tea and homemade cakes

Achievements and Performance

Incoming resources from generated funds and charitable activities continued to be healthy during the year. Interest and dividends contributed £16,727.31 to surplus funds.

The high level of reserves noted in the reserves policy below has arisen due to the hard work and dedication of many volunteers from Heckington and the surrounding area.

Financial Review

Investment Policy

Cash is held in interest earning deposits at banks and other institutions. Funds not required to be immediately accessed are held in high interest rate deposits at varying periods of notice relating to the likely timescale on which they would need to be accessed. This policy is reviewed annually, we currently have investments as well as cash holdings.



Support for local businesses and charities is an important part of the show we are always very pleased to see them at the show

Reserves Policy At 30th September 2019 the charity had £619,542.41 in unrestricted reserves of which £233,992.32 is represented by fixed assets.

The reserves are held at this level as a protective measure in case the costs incurred in preparation for a show are not met by income due to bad weather or any other unfortunate event on the day. These reserves are proportionate to the recurring costs of staging a show. One of the principal risks is the future of the showground. Our policy is therefore to accumulate costs of acquiring and servicing a showground. These are estimated to be in the region of £500,000. The reserves policy is reviewed annually.

Due to the level of reserves held, the trustees have no concerns about the charity's ability to continue to operate in future years.

Structure, Governance and Management

The original society was founded in 1863.

The charitable company was incorporated 1st June 2004 and commenced trading on that date, acquiring all of the assets of Heckington and District Agricultural Society (an association) registered charity number 507328 on 1st October 2004. The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The governing document of the charity is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The charity is managed by the trustees who meet on a regular basis and decisions are made at these meetings. The trustees are elected at the AGM and receive no benefits. They are supported by a committee of 50 elected by the members.

Risk Policy Trustees have reviewed risk and undertake regular health and safety assessments.

Recruitment Policy The directors are committed to ensuring that their committee have the life and professional experiences essential to the growth

of the charity. They are open to any opportunity to attract new committee members who will have typically demonstrated commitment to the show over a number of years or meet a particular area of expertise identified by the board. All new trustees and volunteers are given relevant induction training on their first day or as soon after as it is possible. Training will be on an "on-the-job" basis as is necessary.

Plans for Future Periods

The charity plans to continue meeting their objectives by holding annual shows. In 2020, we will be continuing our policy of continuous review and improvement, which begins with our first committee meeting after the show. We have identified the following areas for specific focus in 2020:-

- Work with the show ground owners to improve the weather-resistance of the show ground
- Work with suppliers, exhibitors and visitors to manage the environmental impact of the show
- Continue to enhance our admissions and gate management
- Support disabled visitors by providing admission for registered carers



The show is an integral part of village life with friends and family coming to join in with the events and competitions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2015) and in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Financial Statements

Balance Sheet as at 30/09/2019

HECKINGTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

COMPANY NUMBER: 5141838 (England and Wales)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

	Note	2019		2018	
		Unrestricted Funds £	Total 30-Sep-19 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 30-Sep-18 £
Fixed Assets:					
Tangible assets	9	57,285.05	57,285.05	60,307.11	60,307.11
Investments	10	176,707.27	176,707.27	200,691.20	200,691.20
		<i>Total fixed assets</i>	233,992.32	260,998.31	260,998.31
Current Assets:					
Investments	10	362,164.44	362,164.44	398,629.24	398,629.24
Debtors	11	2,770.79	2,770.79	5,514.75	5,514.75
Cash at bank and in hand		22,034.86	22,034.86	37,492.93	37,492.93
		<i>Total current assets</i>	386,970.09	441,636.92	441,636.92
Liabilities:					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(1,420.00)	(1,420.00)	(4,420.00)	(4,420.00)
		Total net assets	619,542.41	698,215.23	698,215.23
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted income funds	14	619,542.41	619,542.41	698,215.23	698,215.23
		Total charity funds	619,542.41	698,215.23	698,215.23



The Donkey Show went ahead despite the rain and had some excellent entries and prize winners.



A new addition this year was a marquee dedicated to showcasing the youth entries in the Horticulture, Cookery and Arts Section.

Financial Statements

Income & Expenditure to 30/09/2019

INCOME	2019	2018
	£	£
Donations	1,491.00	245.60
Sponsorship	4,571.00	4,801.50
Entry fees	8,131.55	12,854.97
Gate money	34,634.41	76,191.13
Advance ticket sales	37,470.00	49,294.00
Membership	1,591.15	1,325.00
Programme advertisements	1,312.00	1,320.00
Programme sales	937.05	1,645.61
Trade stands	102,283.59	116,130.25
Miscellaneous income	738.59	258.32
Deposit account interest	4,260.31	4,031.24
Investment dividends & Interest	-	6,166.16
Gains/(Losses) on investments	12,467.00	- 927.78
150th ball income		50.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	209,887.65	273,386.00
EXPENDITURE		
Advertising	8,086.22	8,413.84
Accountancy	1,200.00	1,643.00
Entertainment	36,395.80	31,113.27
Badges and rosettes	3,585.80	4,417.21
Catering and hospitality	10,295.20	10,628.55
Insurance	4,847.69	5,625.19
Stewards	1,252.30	999.00
Gate expenditure	30,675.10	32,100.23
Utilities	902.19	1,071.34
Equipment hire	69,283.00	67,826.32
Trophies	2,342.30	905.46
Telephone	579.80	675.76
Clothing and miscellaneous	4,425.22	8,322.93
Printing, postage and stationery	9,592.35	12,694.58
Secretarial Expenses	6,606.30	7,441.29
Judges expenses	520.80	850.80
Field licences	28,912.00	28,912.00
Licences and subscriptions	839.54	882.90
Prizes	11,217.00	16,221.00
Contract work	32,182.35	33,247.92
Security	12,264.00	12,552.36
Ground preparation	2,790.88	946.72
Signs	5,408.00	4,803.51
Bank charges	994.57	1,932.96
Depreciation	3,362.06	4,147.33
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	288,560.47	298,375.47
Net (Expenditure) Income for the year	(78,672.82)	(24,989.47)

The 2019 Show in words & pictures

“Our first time at Heckington Show and will definitely come again, you have coped very well with the weather, it’s a great show”



Sponsors North Kesteven District Council were very busy in their marquee with a sustainability theme.



The cycling events in the main ring were extremely well received, despite the soft ground conditions

“Despite the awful weather over the weekend of the show (again!) we thought your voluntary team/s did an outstanding job in keeping the show running and we sincerely hope that any financial deficit was not too painful. I personally enjoyed judging the huge entry of Lincoln Longwools. In conclusion I would personally like to thank the Stewards for their very valuable assistance and general welcome on what was a very soggy July day.”

*“We host the rabbit tent I would publicly like to thank Heckington Committee for carrying on in the adverse conditions.”
Rose Burgess, Secretary of Sleaford Rabbit Club*



The Horticulture Section is integral to the Show and always has an incredible display of top quality produce



Entries in the Lincoln Longwool classes were extremely high this year.

“Many thanks to all your team for all the hard and dirty work in keeping the show going in such horrendous conditions - True grit and determination“

“Great two days as always, yes muddy and difficult to walk in places but we enjoyed it. Thanks everyone, get planning next year



Plenty of opportunity to meet the animals and learn all about the countryside

“On behalf of Hollies Animal Rehoming Trust I wondered if you could pass on our thanks to everyone involved in this years show, which I can appreciate has been very challenging for you. Could I also ask you to pass on our thanks to the lovely helpers who managed to tow our rental van off the field this morning, and for the crew on the trade stand car park who managed to direct me out without getting stuck :-)”



Yes, it was muddy. But everyone got on and enjoyed their day at the show.



New this year were the thrills and spills of Horse Boarding. A real crowd pleaser.

“Well done to all the committee and volunteers at Heckington Show. You can rely on the weather to spoil the best laid plans! We all know how much hard work goes into organising the show, and I’m sure that we all owe you a round of applause for your sterling efforts”



The Romford Royal British Legion Band thoroughly enjoyed their day at the show and have asked to come back again

“We have had a brilliant weekend at Heckington Show - we have been both days and still didn’t get round everything! Well done to those stall holders who did not let the weather dampen their spirits and were so welcoming.”



Heckington & District Agricultural Society

Registered Charity: 1108829

A Company Limited by Guarantee: 5141838

www.heckingtonshow.org.uk

