
MCAVA Newsletter



December 2025



Wishing our members a very Merry Christmas
and a happy New Year!

Exams

The first morning of the CAAV examinations on Wednesday 12th November started as we would have expected – wet. 13 candidates from Midlands and Lincolnshire attended over the 2 days, supported by MCAVA and Lincolnshire examiners.

The President would like to thank all the examiners who have taken the time to set and mark questions, Helen Burvill (Exam Convenor) and Jennifer Whitton (Chief Examiner).

MCAVA Conference

The Conference was held at the Holiday Inn, Crick, on Thursday, November 27th, 2025. The event began with Robbie Moore MP, who spoke for 25 minutes about Government Policy and how it operates.

Next, Nick Evans from Oxbury Bank shared insights into the bank's operations and support for farmers. Mark Aitchison of Frontier concluded the first session, delivering an excellent presentation on Frontier Group's philosophy and approach to working with people.

Following a coffee break, John Thame from Berrys provided valuable information on Inheritance Tax (IHT), and Jeremy Moody offered a comprehensive overview of current issues in the profession—his talk could easily have continued much longer!

After lunch, attendees heard from the inspiring Kate Scott, who discussed her charity, the Rural Communities Mental Health Foundation (RCMH). Motivated by personal loss, she founded RCMH to offer training in Mental Health and Mental Health First Aid.

The day wrapped up with Josh Pollock discussing developments in renewable energy, and Lyndon Cathers from Soil Capital explaining their system of rewarding farmers for soil health and carbon management.

We received a great deal of positive feedback and are already preparing for the MCAVA Conference 2026. The President extends sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to organising and running the event.





Young Valuers, Tour of Swinford Wind Farm

On 25th September, members of the Midlands CAAV Young Valuers were welcomed by Vattenfall for an exclusive tour of the Swinford Wind Farm near Lutterworth.

The visit provided a valuable opportunity to see first-hand how the site operates and to learn more about the role of onshore wind in the UK's renewable energy mix. Vattenfall's team gave an overview of the site's history, technical specifications, and its contribution to national energy targets, highlighting the importance of sustainable land use and collaboration with landowners.

The group also heard from one of the landowners, who explained how the project complements his farming business and the importance of positive relationships between promoters and operators of energy projects with the owners of the land they require access and rights over.

The event was very well attended, with members actively engaging and asking plenty of insightful questions throughout the tour. After exploring the turbines and learning about maintenance processes, grid connections, and environmental considerations, the group enjoyed a delicious meal at the nearby golf club, which provided the perfect setting for further discussion and networking. A big thank you to Vattenfall for their hospitality and for sharing their expertise with our members.

The MCAVA is now on [LinkedIn](#)

Please like, share, post and tag!

Upcoming AGM - 5 February 2026

The MCAVA AGM will be held on Thursday 5th February 2026, location TBC. MCAVA Council will meet at 2.30pm. The AGM then starts at 4pm starting with the formal part, reports from Central, Presentations and a Guest Speaker.

After the speaker there will be a drinks reception to sit down for dinner at 7pm. Tickets for the dinner will be available in the New Year. We hope you can join us for an enjoyable and social evening.



MCAVA Member Announcements and Congratulations

Harry Chichester and Mrs Chichester welcomed baby Lillian in September.

Mary McKenzie (nee Eyles) and Ian McKenzie welcomed baby Millie on 1 December 2025.

Thomas Wrench and Sophie Wrench (nee Mockler) welcomed baby Nancy on 22nd November 2025.

Congratulations to Phillipa Bateman, who married James this summer.

Congratulations to Helen Burvill (nee Frampton) on the occasion of her wedding this summer.

Congratulations to Robyn Dearden Hughes on the occasion of her wedding to Thomas Hughes of 3 November 2025.

Wedding News

A huge congratulations to the new Mr and Mrs Martin who were married in Yorkshire in July. More likely known to you all as Frances Martin (nee Houseman) of Fisher German and Henry Martin of Howkins and Harrison. We wish them lifetime of happiness.

