



The Midland Counties Agricultural Valuers' Association

(Affiliated to the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers)



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2021



I am delighted to share with you the MCAVA Christmas Newsletter.

150 Years! We agreed some years ago to mark the 150th Anniversary and mark it well, which is exactly what we achieved on 7th October in Warwick. Thank you to all those who supported the Conference and Warwick Castle dinner - what a great success the day was from start to finish. We now have the photos to prove it, so do scroll down below and enjoy them.

The examinations were successfully completed in November. We are delighted to report that we have ten new Fellows to welcome to MCAVA and thank you to the Examinations team for all their hard work.



The next event is the AGM in February - Save the date Thursday 3rd February.

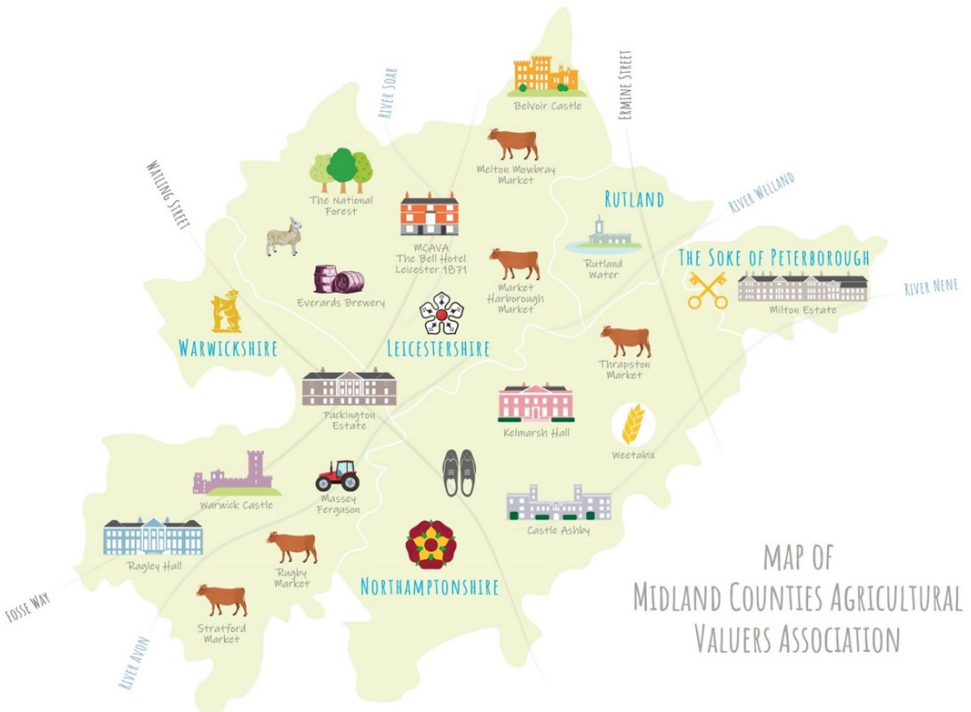
Finally- I would like to pass on my thanks to Niff Whitton for putting the Newsletter together for us to enjoy.

Caroline Pullin

NEWS.....NEWS.....NEWS.....

What a busy Autumn it has been and we have so much to update you with so here is a taster...

- A visit to Milton Estate.
- An exciting factory tour of Belvoir Fruit Farms!
- The Young Valuers have been having cheesy dreams after a cheese tasting evening.
- We had 16 candidates from the Midlands and further afield sitting the exams in November
- And we cannot forget the main event of the year...Guy Banhams birthday... sorry... the amazing brunch, conference and evening entertainment celebrating our sesquicentenary year!



MAP OF MIDLAND COUNTIES AGRICULTURAL VALUERS ASSOCIATION

Meet your 2021 Examiners



Ruth Ofield



Guy Banham



Iain Long



Alice Robinson



James Wadland



Jennifer Whitton



Edward Beale



Helen Frampton



Helena Tibbitts



Helen Scott



Mary Eyles



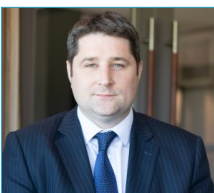
Ben Minns



Hamish Byers



Richard Start



Matthew Hodgetts

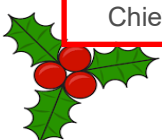


Eloise Balcombe

A massive thank you to all of our examiners who have given up their time to help with the exams. We had 16 candidates sitting the exams at Warick House, Southam with the on farm part conducted at High-field Farm, Frankton by kind permission of Mr & Mrs B Mitchell.

Special thanks must go to Ruth Ofield as Exams Convenor which is a huge task of organisation.

Also thanks to Guy Banham for his work as Chief Examiner—Guy will be stepping aside for next year with Helena Tibbitts stepping up to Chief Examiner for 2022.



MCAVA 150th CELEBRATIONS

On Thursday 7th October the MCAVA, along with many other guests from Local Associations from around the country de-camped to Warwick to celebrate our 150th anniversary with a brunch, conference and wonderful dinner at Warwick Castle.

As a re-cap and for those who were not able to attend we're delighted to provide the following overviews.....

Brunch

We were delighted that guests were able to attend the Brunch held before the Conference to celebrate 150 years of MCAVA. Our President had invited other Local Association Presidents, Secretaries and honoured guests, including past Presidents, CAAV Presidents, Secretary and conference speakers, who all enjoyed the refreshments before the main events of the day, and joined with us in raising a glass to toast the historic achievement.



Past Presidents of the MCAVA

Tim Fox



Sophie Nott, Verity Garlick, Sarah Franks and Will Davies



A 'mob' of Agricultural Valuers

The Conference

The MCAVA National Conference followed on in the afternoon, held in person and virtually it attracted over 260 Members and other Professionals who listened to a wide range of interesting speakers including Minette Batters NFU President, Alistair Martin, Keeper of the Records of The Duchy of Cornwall and Jeremy Moody, CAAV secretariat to name but a few.

The feedback has been positive -

"Just wanted to record my sincere thanks to you and your team of organising a very memorable 150th National conference with excellent speakers."

"I just wanted to say congratulations on delivering a great conference, the speakers all excellent and thought provoking."

The success of the Conference has significantly helped secure the finances of MCAVA for another year and plans are already underway for the 2022 MCAVA Conference. MCAVA thanks Nicola Clayton-Bailey, Caroline Pullin, Verity Garlick, Will Davies, Sophie Nott, Daisy Miles and Sarah Franks.



Dinner



In the evening we celebrated our 150th anniversary with a Reception and Dinner at Warwick Castle. Guests were greeted by a Knight on horseback and led to the entrance where they enjoyed drinks and canapes in the courtyard before a fantastic dinner held in The Great Hall.

The castle provided an excellent venue and tours of some of the state rooms were very interesting. These were given by members of staff in authentic costumes, who also provided some light entertainment throughout the evening - including a duel with an axe and a sword!



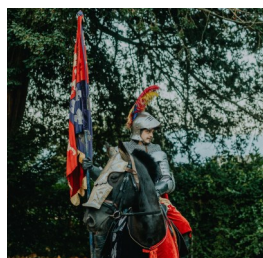
Such a fantastic evening does not happen without the enormous efforts of the organisers, so thanks must go to Will Davies, Daisy Miles, Caroline Pullin, Verity Garlick and Sophie Nott for their work in organising the event.

Here's to the next 150 years!

Mary Eyles



For more photos please feel free to click on the photo below to take you to the website..



Cheese Tasting



On the 21st October 17 young valuers met at the Leicestershire Handmade Cheese Company for a tour and cheese tasting.



We had an interesting tour understanding the process of cheese making, how the different cheeses are made, how the business was founded and the regenerative

farming system being undertaken. We finished the factory tour and cheese store rooms where we have never seen so many cheeses!

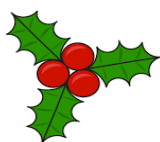
We then headed into the farm shop where we sampled the various cheeses and plenty of people made some extra purchases.

We retired to The Black Horse at Market Bosworth for a drink and pie dinner and it was great to catch up with everyone after such a long time.



Our thanks go to the Leicestershire Handmade Cheese Company for putting on a informative and interesting tour and we will share our next young valuers event shortly where we hope to see you all there.

Ian Mackenzie and Lucy Whitaker



Belvoir Fruit Farm

Belvoir Farm in the Vale of Belvoir, Leicestershire, kindly hosted the MCAVA visit on the 23rd September. The company produces the well-known and enjoyed fruit drinks, a business which started approximately 40 years ago at the farmhouse kitchen of the owner, Pev Manners. Pev's mother and father started producing an elderflower cordial from flowers picked from their farm hedgerows, to gift to local friends and farmers. The business has grown from there to a very successful British business supplying stockists worldwide.



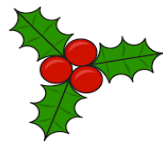
It was extremely interesting to hear the history of the business from Pev. Both Pev and his colleagues provided a very fascinating tour of the factory, explaining the process of making and bottling the various flavours of drinks, the ups (the public coming from all over to donate elderflowers they had picked from their hedgerows) and the downs (on the day of our visit the UK CO2 shortage was a huge concern) of such a business, as well as an insight into the food and drinks supply chain.

The afternoon was an interesting insight into a farm diversification. Thanks must go to not only Pev Manners and his team for hosting us but to Nicola Clayton-Bailey for organising the afternoon and supper at The Chequers Inn, Woolsthorpe afterwards.

Alice Robinson



Milton Estate Visit



On 16 September William Craven hosted a tour of the Milton Estate by kind permission of Sir Philip Naylor Leyland. A group of 20 were shown through the Repton parkland to the hunt kennels. We listened to a fascinating talk from the falconer and kennel master on the family pack, which dates back to about 1740.

We then visited the estate village of Marholm and discussed the challenges presented in finding new revenue generating uses for thatched traditional buildings set within the core of the estate following the surrender of a traditional farm yard.

Finally we were then treated to an excellent afternoon tea followed by a tour of the gardens and the restored Orangery.

Iain Nott



2022		
DIARY OF EVENTS		
2022		
DATE	EVENT	VENUE
12 January 2022	MCVA Council Meeting	Zoom @ 3pm
3 February 2022	MCVA AGM	TBC

KEY CONTACTS

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