

## Dear Carlton Le Moorland residents,

We hope you are keeping safe and well. One of the conditions of Miss Trafford's Will was that the Society would hold a farm open day. This year that has not been possible due to COVID, so we thought we would send an update on what we have been working on over the last few months. This includes an update on Trafford Farm and the education programme at the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society.

### Trafford Farm - Carlton Le Moorland Update

The Lincolnshire Agricultural Society was delighted to award the tenancy of the farm formerly owned and farmed by the late Sheila Trafford to John Hollis, a young farmer, native to the neighbouring Brant Broughton. John took over the farm at the conclusion of harvest 2019, to endure one of the wettest autumn/winter periods on record, which meant that he was not able to plant any winter crops at all. This weather showed up many areas of the farm that needed improvements to the drainage in the fields, either side of Broughton Road, which many villagers may have noticed at the time. The work was successful and those fields are now in decent condition.

John did manage to sow spring crops early last year, though these did not yield as well as could have been expected, so a difficult first year. Autumn 2020 began much better and so John has planted a fair proportion of his anticipated winter cropping, which is looking pretty good across most of the farm. He is growing some innovative crops this year, which together with his Direct Drilling system, will be interesting to follow through to the harvest 2021. He is also digging out some of the neglected ditches around the farm and finding some working land drains in the process, which will improve water movement in the future. Farming is in a state of change and much effort is being put into Carbon Farming, which ties into the way John is working the farm – when the weather allows, in future you will rarely see a plough or cultivator at work.

You may be aware that the Society planted some Oak saplings along Broughton Road, which should be more visible this year, to replace some aged trees that were deemed to be dangerous, due to their location. This will be an ongoing process, once Covid restrictions are lifted.

The Society established the LAS Trafford Fund to help young people entering agriculture, we have supported a number of students who entered courses run by The Worshipful Company of Farmers in 2019 and 2020, this will continue for next year when the courses recommence. The fund has also worked with The Henry Plumb Foundation to assist a young local farmer at Bassingham. John Brogan was brought up in Carlton le Moorland, he has set up a beef rearing enterprise at Bassingham. The stock are housed in his farm yard and needed a store to keep his hay dry for the winter, this year his new shed will make sure that this will happen. We intend to encourage applicants for farming related educational courses and other projects, to apply to the LAST Fund via Chris Rothery - [chris.rothery@live.co.uk](mailto:chris.rothery@live.co.uk).



## Lincolnshire Agricultural Society Education update

### Breakfast Week

For the first time in six years our Breakfast Week education event went virtual, allowing schools from across the county to get involved by accessing the resources in the classroom and through their remote learning platforms. We created a bank of breakfast week learning resources that teachers could access for free including video cookery sessions, supporting videos from the farm, teacher guide, activity plans and interactive games. A resource box filled with all the locally sourced ingredients to reproduce the cookery sessions was delivered to each school in advance.

Our priority was to teach children about the importance of a healthy and nutritious breakfast, whilst developing their knowledge about where breakfast comes from and the journey it goes on from farm to fork. Children were engaged with different cookery sessions including baking bacon and cheese muffins, making omelettes, making oat pancakes with healthy toppings and making smoky bacon and fruity seeded flapjack.



### Career Videos – Exploring Careers within the Agriculture and Horticulture Industry

To continue our engagement with secondary schools we are in the process of creating a series of videos 'A Day in the Life of a...', providing students with the opportunity to explore the world of work within the agriculture and horticulture industry. With the support of businesses and individuals who are kindly providing video footage, we are building a comprehensive set of career resources to broaden young people's horizons and shine a light on the exciting and rewarding careers available within the agriculture and horticulture industries.

### #ArmchairAgriculture

To support families with home schooling, we have created a series of educational home learning activities and resources on the themes of food, farming and the natural environment. All the learning activities are linked to the National Curriculum, are free, downloadable and provide unique and fun ideas to spark curiosity and inspiration, whilst also providing a little bit of light relief and time away from the screen!

If you'd like to find out more about our educational programme, membership programme or events please visit [lincolnshireshowground.co.uk](http://lincolnshireshowground.co.uk) or call us on **01522 522900**.

**Jayne Southall, CEO**