

HOLT & DISTRICT FARMERS' CLUB

FOUNDED 1948

President: Richard Brooks

Chairman: Pat Cubitt

Vice-Chairman: Andrew Ross

www.holtfarmers.club

CLUB MATTERS

May 2022

Martin Jensen and his family are grateful for the generosity of the donors who pushed the amount raised for Ukraine to £30,000 in no time. The extraordinary bravery of the Ukrainians in repelling the Russians from Kyiv might mean that his arable operation close to the Polish border is able to press on without too many problems to produce the grain that so many countries are dependent on. Martin's wife Rosemary reported recently *"Thank you all so much for your continued support. Our team in Ukraine are setting up a charity to enable them to receive funds direct from us and to distribute same to the wounded soldiers and civilians who are being treated in the Lviv area. Martin is intending to drive to Ukraine again soon, taking more medical supplies but it is too dangerous as yet, both for him and for our team there"*.

Meanwhile, like Ukrainian civilians, we are also due to escape westwards this summer. Our **President** has finally been given the date for our visit to **Ken Hill near Snettisham on Thursday, 19th May**. Nick Padwick is very kindly squeezing us in before the BBC Springwatch crew descends and between 30 and 40 of us are invited. The plan is for us to get to Heacham Bottom Farm under our own steam by 2.30 and coffee is being offered; Ken Hill is the name given to the farming operation and Wild Ken Hill is the conservation part. Nick stresses that it will be a real farm walk and not possible for anyone to follow round in a vehicle with the visit likely to last about three hours.



Richard Brooks is also firming up details for, you heard it here many times before, our midsummer visit to **Shropshire's on Wednesday, 22nd June**. Again numbers will be limited to a maximum of 40 since we shall hire a coach and not so much walking will be involved. The tour is due to start near Downham Market at 10.30 which will require an early start – probably with pick ups at the usual places in Holt and Tattersett. There will be the cost of the coach, lunch and probably a donation to cover and more details will be available in due course. Please register with me as soon as possible – partners will be welcome though it would be helpful if you could indicate your preference in case we are oversubscribed.

Michael Pollitt continues his good work for the Camp Hill trust at Thornage Hall where the community, including the brother of Delaval Astley (Lord Hastings), runs a 70 acre organic farm. Philip Culley is the farm manager who is having to stand down on health grounds. He is the "bee man" for two hives and they are looking for an apiarist who could take over. Anyone interested, or knows someone who might be, should give Michael a ring on 01603 486997.



The retiring Tom Youngs acknowledges the Welford Road crowd for the last time

We hope that we shall have another younger member able to attend regularly now that Tom Youngs has formally hung up his gumshield. This would be in the tradition of grandfather Gerry, father Nick and uncle William although I'm not sure that Ben is likely to follow. Our best wishes are with Tiffany, Tom's wife in her continuing struggle, and with Ben as Leicester Tigers strive to complete their return to former glories with some silverware at the conclusion of their excellent season. To cheer us up after Norwich F.C.'s relegation from the Premiership it would be a silver lining if Jack van Poortvliet, Bill's grandson, was to come off the bench in place of Ben to seal victory.

Tim

P.S. With famers' fingers and poorer eyesight it is easy to mistype as I regularly prove so do take care when you're next checking out which tractor to buy on t'internet.

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