

Welcome to Suffolk Show

Show director's welcome

On behalf of the Suffolk Agricultural Association I would like to extend to you a very warm welcome to the 2018 Suffolk Show.

My deputy, Andrew Fairs, a host of volunteer stewards, generous sponsors, all of the SAA team and I have worked very hard since the last show to bring you two more action-packed days, which we believe can be enjoyed by everyone. We are a charity dedicated to supporting food and farming, and showcasing the best of our fine county and beyond.

We are bringing new attractions to the Suffolk Show again this year, so it can continue to evolve, but we will always stay true to our traditions and build on our strong agricultural roots. Our visitors will see the very best of Suffolk life, with wonderful local food, stunning displays, interactive exhibits and top quality competitions.

My husband, Zac, and I would like to thank our president, Baroness Byford, for all her support to our association and wish her two wonderful days at the Suffolk Show. I know she will enjoy, as I do, seeing all the families visiting together to enjoy a memorable day.

Our theme for this year has been 'Looking



Suffolk Show director, Bee Kemball and Zac Ludgrove.

Picture:SARAH LUCY BROWN

back, looking forward', as we think about where the world was 100 years ago, and how life looked in Suffolk at that time. The exhibits on show are a unique collection

and may never all come together again. We are also looking to the future with the launch of our first show app for smart phones, to help our visitors plan their day and enjoy the treasure trail, one of the app's features.

Our show rings will be buzzing again with some firm favourites such as the Shetland Pony Grand National and the Terrier Racing, plus this year we are thrilled to welcome back the amazing motorbike stunt display team Bolddog Lings. We are bursting at the seams with livestock this year too - stunning horses, from heavy horse turnouts to top international showjumpers, will be competing, while the Grand Parade showcases all the livestock champions.

Other areas which continue to grow are our free sports area, Flower and Garden Show, Lifestyle Pavilion and Food Hall - all of which have expanded for 2018. So, it only remains for me to thank our visitors, exhibitors, volunteers and amazing sponsors in coming together for a great celebration of Suffolk life. I wish you all two very happy days.

**Suffolk Show director
Bee Kemball**

President's welcome

At this year's show we think of those who served the country during the WWI period, such as my father-in-law Donald Byford of Slough Farm, Acton. The Royal British Legion is my chosen charity for 2018, remembering as well those who serve today.

This year's show features the Suffolk Punch horse which was used extensively on farms in earlier generations – today the breed is sadly a rare sight. William Byford was an enthusiastic Suffolk Punch breeder and his horse Bounce won the championship at The Royal Windsor Show in 1889.

It is a huge thrill for me and my family to be the Association's president, where we remember not only the past but look forward to new opportunities in this ever-changing world.

These two days are our showpiece but throughout the year the Association works closely with schools too – Tractors into Schools in February, potato planting and potato harvesting in March and June respectively, and the School Farm and Country Fair in April - give you a snapshot of some of the association's activities. Trinity Park is home to the Suffolk Agricultural Association, but it also serves as the centre of the community. Its charitable and commercial activities generate funds to support educational



Suffolk Show president, Hazel Byford.

Picture: GREGG BROWN

objectives and the events centre is a premier venue in the county. I would like to thank the teams of volunteers and professional staff for their energy and commitment and, as well, my thanks goes to the many sponsors, tradestands, exhibitors and show

visitors for their support which is greatly appreciated. I hope you will all have a wonderful experience.

**Suffolk Show president
Baroness Byford DBE DL**