

EDENBRIDGE & OXTED

AGRICULTURAL SHOW



Celebrating the country way of life since 1837

Update for Supporters, March 2025



Don't we all feel better now the sun has finally made an appearance! Milder, drier weather is much appreciated by our farmers; we're all relieved to see lambs out and healthy, and we're finally able to get onto the fields for some tractor work. Long may it last.

Preparations for this year's show on 24th & 25th August are well under way. We are absolutely thrilled to be announcing the long overdue return of a much loved attraction for our Main Ring. The amazing, official JCB Dancing Diggers are back for a full show!

They're bringing 8 magnificent machines and performing a brand new choreographed routine to music twice each day in our Main Ring. You'll be able to get up close with the machines and drivers between their performances – it's a real treat for our visitors of all ages. This is a rare appearance as the team are in great demand worldwide and we're very lucky to have been selected. Our very grateful thanks must go to JCB for their support of our show.

By popular demand the Dorset Axemen and the Sheep Show will be returning, and there should be a few surprises still up our sleeves! A new novelty dog show will bring some fresh smiles to our Country Sports section on Sunday, and don't forget to start training your terriers now so they're in tip-top condition for the terrier racing on Monday afternoon!

Whilst the return of avian flu restrictions has sadly put our poultry tent at risk once again, we're pleased to confirm that our livestock sections are full steam ahead for this year with Bluetongue restrictions not likely to have any significant impact.

Our competition schedules are almost ready and will be released shortly once we've confirmed our sponsors for this year. If you're interested in sponsoring a class or section at our event then we would be more than happy to send you some options to consider. Please don't hesitate to ask how you or your business can support the show.



It is, of course, membership renewal time again, so please see page 3 for all you need to know in order to keep your membership current for this year.

Thank you for continuing to support our show. We look forward to enjoying another fantastic event with you.

Bill Peters & Holly Taylor,
Joint Show Chairmen

News from the sheep shed

With the growing popularity of the show's sheep section and with the generous support of its committed sponsors, we're very pleased to be able to offer specific breed classes for an incredible 13 different breeds.

This year we've introduced classes for the Lleyn breed. Welsh in origin but now prolific across the country, these typically quiet-natured sheep are superb mothers, producing commercial lambs that mature quickly.

Our other breed classes are for Badger Face, Beltex, Blue Texel, Coloured Down, Coloured Ryeland, Hampshire Down, Jacob, Kerry Hill, Southdown, Texel, Valais Blacknose and Zwartbles, with other breeds amalgamated into British Down, Continental breeds, Native Longwool and Native Shortwool.

All credit must go to our amazing sheep stewards who help keep all the classes running smoothly and who then facilitate entries for over 100 young handlers!

Our sheep breed classes all take place on the Sunday with the interbreed championship on Monday morning. In 2024 our champion was a Bleu Du Maine ewe lamb from exhibitor Stephen Stamp.

Caring for our Showground



The Show society owns the 133-acre site of the Ardenrun Showground, managing that land through the year in conjunction with a farming tenant under a grazing licence for their sheep. We have always taken care to maintain the grass well and to look after the natural assets we have such as hedges, trees and ponds so we can do our best also for the wildlife on site.

A new Sustainable Farming Incentive agreement is in place for the showground which sees us commit to improving the grass mix on site and to managing our hedges and ponds. We look forward to sharing our progress with the first investment under this scheme coming this spring as we sow a beneficial clover mix into the grass the internal showground area. This will improve soil structure, better protect the surface, reduce nutrient leaching and improve the biology of our soil.

our fly casting pond is one of six ponds on our site. We're hoping to help their ecology with a bit of care and increased monitoring.





Membership Renewals 2025

Our trustees have reviewed our membership rates for 2025 to ensure they continue to offer great value for money and that they're maintained in line with any increase to our public gate prices.

A small increase has therefore been applied to membership rates for 2025. Our membership year runs from 1st April so subscriptions are now due, thank you.

All with a Member or Guest badge enjoy access to the Members' Marquee with prime view of the Main Ring. The marquee is home to a dedicated bar and restaurant which serves delicious hot and cold food, teas, coffees and a range of snacks throughout the day. Members also receive discounts on competition entry fees where possible and receive an invitation to our AGM in May.

MEMBER: £48

A Member receives
1 x Member badge, valid
both days of the show.



JOINT MEMBERS: £95

Joint Members receive
2 x Member badges, each valid
both days of the show.

GOVERNOR: £245

(discounted to £195 if bought before 31st May 2025)

Governors receive 1 x Governor's badge (valid both days), 6 x 'any one day' Guest badges and 1 x car pass to park in the area directly behind the Members' Marquee.

The 2025 gate price for an adult ticket will be £25.

CHILDREN: Under 5s attend the show without charge. 5-16 year olds will need a Junior badge which can be purchased separately by members nearer to the show. The Junior badge price will be £8 per day.

GUESTS: Guest badges can also be purchased by our members nearer to the show. These will be £24 each.

We are always happy to help iron out any issues with your membership and to help you by phone if it's easier. We can set up a new Direct Debit too over the phone if you'd like to automate the process each year.

Please call us on 01342 832307 or email info@edenbridge-show.co.uk for more information.



If you pay by Direct Debit and want to renew then you don't need to do anything at all. Just look out for an email from us with an invoice for your records. The amount will be taken from your nominated account by our payment partner GoCardless on or after 1st April.

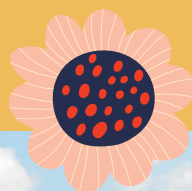
If you pay by Standing Order then PLEASE check with your bank that the correct amount will be sent across to us. This information can usually found in your banking app or online banking under 'Regular Payments'. We spend a lot of admin time chasing and reconciling small top-up payments so your help with this is much appreciated!

If you buy your membership online then please log into your account on our website at www.edenbridge-show.co.uk, click on the account-holder symbol (top right hand corner) then if you scroll down a little you'll see Members Details and the option to click to Renew. Just select the type of membership you'd like for 2025 and complete the transaction online.

If you have moved house or any details have changed then please call or email to let us know.



Evolving our Equestrian offer



The pace of change in the horse world is rapid and we're very keen to keep up with what today's competitors are looking for. We've been watching and listening to what's getting people out on the road, whether they're looking for a fun day out or a weekend away competing and we've made some great changes for 2025 in response.

Our show's charitable purpose is multi-faceted; we're here to promote great breeding for livestock and horses. We're also here to help advocate for great standards in animal welfare and to show how many great ways there are to enjoy the best of the countryside. We know how good it is, both for fitness and for the soul when you can saddle up and have fun with your pony.

So you should find plenty for everyone this year, whether professional producer or first time lead rein competitor.

Qualifiers

Falling relatively late in the season, our show is a great chance for a late qualifier for the Horse of the Year Show, and there are a fabulous 20 qualifying classes with a golden ticket to HOYS for the winner of each. These qualifiers include classes for cobs, miniatures, riding horses, show hunters, ridden coloured ponies and horses, and a special Junior Ridden Coloured class for a rider under 18 to bag their ticket to ride at the NEC in Birmingham. There are also qualifiers in harness, scurry and side saddle.

If your dream is to ride at the London International Horse Show in December then we have a direct qualifier ticket for the winner of our Heritage Ridden classes for Mountain & Moorland native breeds. For anyone seeking a RIHS qualifier then perhaps the Working Show Horse or the Maxi Cob classes are just the ticket.

For the second year we've affiliated to the Irish Draught Horse Society to ensure that our relevant classes are

also qualifiers for the 2026 IDHS(GB) £2000 Ridden Challenge competition. All the details will be in the schedule, released on our website in May.

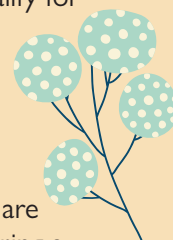
If your horse or pony came to you for rehabilitation after rescue and you're proud of their progress, why not enter our new Open Rescue classes this year? Affiliated to RESS, this new section has classes for competitors in hand or under saddle. The winner will also qualify for the rescue championships at Equifest!

More Fun

Every year we have to close our unaffiliated showjumping entries early because the classes are so popular. So with evident demand we're offering a whole lot more this year for keen competitors. All our Monday jumping classes will now be unaffiliated.

- Adding a new class for 95cm Open Jumping (we'll have 65cm, 75cm, 85cm and 95cm)
- A new Unaffiliated Accumulator (Ring 2) split prizes Juniors & Seniors. Start height 85cm-1m, joker fence at 1.10m.
- New Eventers Challenge (Ring 4). Two heights – 70cm & 80cm. Riders will jump a course of both rustic working hunter fences and cross country style fences. Optimum time and fewest penalties will decide the placings.
- Main Ring shake-up – Sunday brings a 1.35m Open and a 1.25m Open. Monday brings two feature showjumping classes to really get the crowd behind the riders with an Accumulator and a Ride & Drive course.

Of course, all the favourites are back too – the magnificent coaches will grace the Main Ring on Sunday and the heavy horses will no doubt be immaculately presented for their classes on Monday.





An apology about traffic!

The one thing we all hate about events is delays caused by traffic congestion. No one wants to spend precious time when they should be enjoying the show, stuck in a line of queuing cars. Last year there were delays, some significant, for vehicles trying to get into the site and to leave at the end of the day, and we know it was hugely frustrating.

Firstly, thank you for your patience if you were stuck in those queues. We hope it didn't impact your day too much. Sadly the parking contractor we had agreed to work with became unable to fulfil the commitment very late in the day and we were forced to make last minute changes. The team we built did their absolute best but parking is a specialist area and there were peaks of traffic that it was hard to clear.

We are pleased to report that this year a new contractor is in place already and there are various changes made to signage, route plans, car park layout, communications and of course there are very experienced staff both on the ground and in management roles. We are looking forward to returning to smoother parking operations for 2025 and beyond!

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*Photographs in this edition courtesy of:
Agri Media, Shona Galloway, Lou Siggers, Spidge,
Lucy Carnaghan, Michelle Wallis & Steph Brown*

EDENBRIDGE & OXTED AGRICULTURAL SHOW



Celebrating the country way of life since 1837



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Fresh Florals

We were so pleased to see a greater number of entries back in our Horticulture marquee last year. We've made a few changes to Floral Art classes for 2025 with this year's theme 'A Wonderful World'. If you've never competed in our horticultural competitions it could be that this is your year! Take a look at the competition schedule which is now live on our website.

For keen gardeners there are new classes for your home grown apples, and if you love Bake-Off and like to create culinary delights with the produce of your garden then our Plot to Plate classes could be your chance to shine.

