

INVITATION TO THE CLA BUCKINGHAMSHIRE BRANCH AGM

20 SEPTEMBER 2021
CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY



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PROGRAMME

- 10.30 Arrival at Cranfield University for registration and refreshments
- 11.00 Buckinghamshire Branch AGM in CMDC Lecture Room 16
- 11.15 Address by CLA Deputy President, Mark Tufnell
- 11.45 Welcome by University General Manager, John Kett Reynolds
- 12.15 Drinks Reception in the Lounge & Gardens
- 12.45 Two course Lunch in the Restaurant
- 14.00 Tours of the University
- 16.00 Finish with Tea/Coffee and depart

This year's Annual General Meeting is to be held on Monday 20 September 2021 at Cranfield University – Cranfield Management Development Centre, Cranfield University, Cranfield, Bedfordshire, MK43 0HG.

The AGM will take place in the new Cranfield Management Development Centre. The tours will take in the Plant Growth Facility, visiting both the glasshouse and the soil laboratories.

CLA South East would like to thank Robinson & Hall for their valued support.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. To confirm the Minutes of the last meeting held on 20 October 2020
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Election of Officers for 2021/2022
 - a) President
 - b) One representative to Council
 - c) Committee
5. To receive and adopt the Chairman's Annual Report for 2020/2021
6. Any other business.

Nominations for office or for membership of the Committee as given in item 4, or any resolution a member may wish to propose, must reach the Regional Director, in writing by 6 September 2021.

CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY

As a specialist postgraduate university, Cranfield's world-class expertise, large-scale facilities and unrivalled industry partnerships are creating leaders in technology and management globally.



Some notable facts about Cranfield:

- In June 2020, 54% of their students were from the UK, 16% from EU countries and 30% from the rest of the world.
- There is one member of academic staff to every five students, one of the best ratios for any university in the UK.
- Over half of all aerospace engineering master's students in the UK study at Cranfield each year.
- Over half of their students are over 30 years of age.
- In a typical year, their academics deliver courses in over 40 countries outside the UK.
- More than half of their students and learners study part-time.
- Over 7,000 people come to Cranfield each year to benefit from their executive and professional development programmes.
- They have over 20 international alumni communities across the world, including China, India, Russia, Switzerland and Brazil.
- They are ranked in the top ten in the UK for commercial research, consultancy and professional development.
- According to the Research Excellence Framework 2014, 81% of their research is classed as world-leading or internationally excellent.

BOOKING YOUR PLACE AT THE AGM

To book your place at the AGM please login to your 'My CLA' account on www.cla.org.uk and click on Events. Tickets cost £45 inc VAT. You can pay by card online, or by bank transfer or cheque following your booking. Please note, if paying by cheque, your booking will not be confirmed until the cheque is processed by Finance, and you may receive payment reminders in the interim between booking and confirmation. If you are having difficulties, please call the South East office on 01264 313434 or southeast@cla.org.uk.

This event will only run if Covid guidelines permit. If the event is cancelled, we will offer you a full refund.

Bookings close 13 September 2021.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – BUCKS BRANCH

After a very strange 18 months, and far too many Zoom meetings, I am delighted that our AGM is once again face-to-face. The Covid-19 pandemic's impact on work, family life and well-being has been far-reaching, but with the majority of adults now vaccinated it is a pleasure to finally welcome you to a physical CLA event.

The rural sector, not for the first time, has had to adapt and change to the challenges and opportunities posed. Farmers were designated key workers, while those employed in hospitality have spent much of the last year furloughed, though the 2021 summer season has brought high levels of bookings and business for many. Many CLA members will have used this time of enforced lockdown to assess their businesses, and to consider how best to play the cards they have been dealt.

It is perhaps easy to forget that so much has happened since our virtual AGM of 2020. At the turn of the year, and after months of winding negotiations, many farmers and rural businesses breathed a sigh of relief as the UK and European Union finally agreed a deal that will define our future relationship. The EU is a key market for many CLA members, and will remain so, and it is important trade is kept as simple and low-friction as possible. And as we transition away from CAP towards ELM, the CLA has been lobbying Government for as much clarity as possible to help members plan for the future. The CLA can help you understand the changes in agriculture policy, how they will affect your business, and give you advice on how to move forward into the new world.

Other areas the CLA has been working on include connectivity, which varies so wildly across Buckinghamshire depending on where you live or work, and managing public access rights, especially in light of the pandemic. Fresh policies are needed to simplify the tax and planning systems for businesses wishing to diversify, while investment in skills and training is required to support job creation in local areas. With the UK due to host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow in November, the focus for our industry will be on how to grow the economy, mitigate climate change and reverse biodiversity decline at the same time. The eyes of the world will be on us.

Turning to activities in Buckinghamshire, while most physical events and shows were cancelled, the CLA has run a busy programme of online seminars and workshops, covering a range of issues from water to succession. It has been pleasing to see so many members embrace technology and get involved. Face-to-face meetings and events are now starting up again, with fighting rural crime a major topic of focus this autumn. We work closely with the Chief Constable as well as the new Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Barber to ensure rural issues remain high on the agenda, and are planning an awareness day in early April.

The CLA has been working on the OxCam Arc and held an event with DEFRA and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to update members on the project this summer. Key advice topics raised by Buckinghamshire members have included planning and diversification, particularly around the 56-day option for pop-up campsites and events. Other areas have ranged from business rates to legal advice on property agreements and succession. The CLA has also been appearing in or on TV, radio, newspapers, magazines and websites across Buckinghamshire over the past 12 months raising awareness of rural issues such as fly-tipping, connectivity and promoting the Countryside Code, including BBC Three Counties Radio, the Bucks Free Press and ITV Meridian.

I would like to thank the South East team, as well as the team in London, for their continued hard work on behalf of us all. I encourage you to get in touch with the regional office when in need of support.

Robert Ruck-Keene



MINUTES OF THE 2020 BUCKS BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD VIA ZOOM AT 10AM ON TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2020

Present:

Branch President, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher
Branch Chairman, David Briggs
CLA Deputy President, Mark Tufnell
Director South East, Michael Valenzia
14 Members

The Branch President welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked Mark Tufnell, CLA Deputy President, for attending. He thanked Robinson & Hall for their kind partnership of the AGM and welcomed their representatives, Andrew Capel and Andrew Jenkinson.

1. Apologies for Absence

2 formal apologies had been received.

2. To confirm the Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held at Primrose Hill Farm on 24 September 2019 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Branch President.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

4. Election of Officers for 2020/21

a) Re-election of Branch President

There was one nomination, Henry Shaw, who was proposed by David Briggs seconded by Robert Ruck-Keene and carried unanimously.

b) Election of Branch Vice-Presidents

The Chairman took over the meeting for the election of the Vice President. There were two nominations for Vice-Presidents, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher and Sir Edmund Verney. They were proposed by Bryan Edgley, seconded by Sarah Plumridge and carried unanimously.

c) One Representative to the CLA Council

The meeting passed back to the Branch Vice-President. Tudor Cowley proposed Robert Ruck-Keene for Representative to Council, which was seconded by David Briggs and carried unanimously.

d) Branch Committee

The President was delighted to announce that Robert Carington, Garth Clark, Will Finn-Kelcey, Ted Howard-Jones and David Lidington had agreed to join the Committee.

He also announced that Richard Godber as Vice President, Christopher Anstey and Richard Lunnon had retired from the Committee and thanked them all for the contributions to the committee over many years of service.

The Branch President read out the following names for election:

John Abernethy	Ted Howard-Jones
Alexander Boswell	David Lidington
David Briggs	Tom Morrison
Robert Carington	Sarah Plumridge
Miff Chichester	Christopher Prideaux
Garth Clark	Robert Ruck-Keene
Tudor Cowley	Charlie van Exter
Charlie Edgley	Nicholas Verney
Will Finn-Kelcey	

The election of the Committee for 2020/21 was proposed by Debbie Obied, seconded by David Foster and carried unanimously.

5. To Adopt the Chairman's Annual Report for 2019/20

The adoption of the Annual Report was proposed by Mary Tuckett, seconded by Justin Farrington-Smith and carried unanimously.

6. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

The Branch President concluded the Buckinghamshire AGM and introduced CLA Deputy President Mark Tufnell.

BUCKS BRANCH COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Henry Shaw

CHAIRMAN

Robert Ruck-Keene

COMMITTEE

Charlie Van Exter
John Abernethy
Alexander Boswell
David Briggs
Robert Carington
Miff Chichester
Garth Clark
Tudor Cowley
Charlie Edgley
Will Finn-Kelcey
Ted Howard-Jones
Sir David Lidington
Tom Morrison
Sarah Plumridge
Christopher Prideaux
Nicholas Verney

VICE PRESIDENTS

Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher
Lord Rupert Carrington
Sir Edmund Verney

Co-opted
David Foster
Debbie Obied

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