



LINKING ENVIRONMENT AND FARMING

LEAF Network Winter Event 13th and 14th December 2017



You are warmly invited to Shropshire for our Winter LEAF Network Event in December.

Farming is in a tight spot. Brexit will undoubtedly provoke change and this, alongside continued challenges - whether markets or funding, weather or public pressures - will ensure that 2018 is an important year. There are chances for these changes to be handled well and offer better opportunities for farmers with resilient businesses and researchers doing practical research. As members of the LEAF Network, part of your role is to lead the industry and shape and steer discussion to promote positive change.

Join us to re-evaluate, refresh and re-charge your farming aims and explanations and be inspired by the detail delivered by three businesses that lead the field. See the programme below and to book your place by email: events@leafuk.org

Wednesday 13th December

- 11.30** Coffee and refreshments available
- 12.00** Gaps and Gulfs in 'getting' Agriculture 2018 - LEAF Speak Out Training, Susie Emmett
Farm Tour of LEAF Demonstration Farm, Great Wollaston, Robert Kynaston
Great Wollaston, Halfway House, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 9DN

Speak Out training/masterclass will focus on the gaps closing and gulfs opening in 2017-18. We will look at what you are saying, showing and sharing about where we currently are in farming, and where we want to go, and will equip you to move these discussions forward. We will get a review of how issues were handled well (by LEAF Network members) - and less well - in 2017 and pick up lessons and techniques to take into 2018 with words, images, film and social media. We will sharpen skills of chairing and steering discussions and meetings as methods to change minds and influence people.

During the afternoon, Robert will take us on a tour of LEAF Demonstration Farm, Great Wollaston. IFM is at the heart of activities for the 80-strong dairy herd and this promises to be a fascinating insight into the workings of this successful family farm and its communication strategy to inspire and influence visitors. We will also use the tour to try some of the new Speak Out techniques learnt.

The whole afternoon will also put us in the right frame of mind to critically analyse the evening talks and visits the following day. How can radical changes such as robotics and automation or welfare design be segued into mainstream and what are your roles in promoting these changes and explaining them?

17.30 **Depart for dinner/accommodation**

19.00 **Drinks and Dinner**

Lion Quays, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 3EN (www.lionquays.co.uk/)

We will kick the evening off by sharing an insight into LEAF's plans for 2018 and how we will be using the LEAF voice to influence and steer the agricultural industry over the coming year. Professor Simon Blackmore from Harper Adams University will then share with us the fascinating precision farming, hands free hectare and agricultural robotics work and research on-going at Harper Adams. Simon will also discuss how they use this work to continually develop technology on-farm and some of the mechanisms for this such as the Agri-EPI satellite farms.

PLEASE NOTE: ACCOMMODATION HAS NOT BEEN BOOKED AS PART OF THIS EVENT. THERE ARE HOWEVER A NUMBER OF ROOMS AVAILABLE AT A LEAF EVENT RATE (£68) AT THE LION QUAYS RESORT. PLEASE RING AND RESERVE THESE ROOMS BY OCTOBER 31ST IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO STAY. PLEASE MENTION YOU ARE ATTENDING THE LEAF/ABP EVENT TO RECEIVE THIS RATE.

Thursday 14th December - Detail

08.30 **Tour of ABP Ellesmere, Steve Thompson, Site Director**

The Abattoir, Hordley, Ellesmere, SY12 9BL

ABP Food Group is one of Europe's leading food processors and provides quality beef to thousands of customers across the world. ABP works with a vast number of producers, suppliers and consumers and plays a pivotal and influential role in this supply chain. Their site at Ellesmere has been described as one of the most advanced and efficient beef processing operations in Europe.

The ABP Ellesmere site is carbon neutral and built around Temple Grandin's innovative design principles to optimise animal welfare. The tour is sure to provide an interesting perspective on humane slaughter and quality meat supply.

11.30 **Depart**

12.30 **Lunch at Grosvenor Estate**

Lea Manor Farm, Lea Lane, Aldford, Chester, CH3 6JQ

13.00 **Tour of Grosvenor Farms with David Craven, Dairy and Resource Manager**

Grosvenor Farms is a mixed farm on the Eaton Estate supplying about 60,000 litres of fresh milk every day and growing over 2,000 hectares of combinable crops. Grosvenor Farms belongs to the Duke of Westminster and is a commercial farm practising the highest standards to produce high quality food in a responsible and sustainable way.

Grosvenor Farms won the Farm Business of the Year at the Food and Farming Industry Awards in 2016 recognising their place at the forefront of the industry in food production, technology, environmental care and staff development. Dairy and Resource Manager, David Craven along with Arable Manager, Charlie Steer will lead us on this tour which promises to be fascinating insight into this diverse farm business.

15.30 **Close and Depart**