

MCAVA Newsletter



July 2025



About the new MCAVA secretary: Emma Greig

Hello everyone. I'm Emma, I live just outside Lutterworth, Leicestershire and your new secretary. As Secretary I am the point of contact for all members about nearly everything. Laura is still in charge of membership, examination applications and the membership booklet.

As well as being Secretary, I also run an Independent Land Agency and Farm Business Consultancy and farm with my family. We have a 250 acre beef and sheep farm rented from the County Council and other agreements. You may have seen us out and about at a market, local agricultural show or even a YFC competition. I qualified as RICS in 2002, but only recently completed my CAAV exams. I have been a member of Council and secretary since just after the AGM in February.

Do feel free to send over any queries you have. I have used my MCAVA contacts to help clients when there is a problem out of my area of expertise. Everyone in the association is always willing to have a chat and help with a problem or share an experience that can help others.

I am looking forward to the challenge of being Secretary. I would also like to thank Sophie Nott for everything she has done (she is still in the background) and Laura for her expertise with the membership.

Emma

Dates for the diary:

MCAVA Tutorial
15 July 2025

Young Valuers
Conference 10
October 2025

Council Meeting
14 October 2025

MCAVA
Conference 27
November 2025

Council Meeting
5 February 2026

A welcome from Guy Banham, President of the MCAVA

Dear Member,

Thank you for supporting my nomination for President at the AGM, it is an honour to be writing my first official address in this roll. I would like to congratulate Iain on a successful year and finished with an excellent AGM at Kilworth. When I started the Presidential journey two years ago it seemed like a long way away but it came round very fast and I can't believe we are already in June. We have some excellent events to look forward to this year and I am delighted to give you a few more details below.

Presidential Team

Congratulations to James Sealy and Seb Kingsley for being voted into their roles as Senior Vice President and Junior Vice President respectively. I am already enjoying working with them and of course Emma Greig, formally in her new role as MCAVA Secretary. I look forward to working with the rest of the teams who put so much effort into organising all the events throughout the year.

MCAVA Events

The Crick conference is booked for Thursday 27th November and the AGM on Thursday 5th February 2025. Please put these dates into your diary early as both will be excellent events. I would encourage you all to come and support these events, getting colleagues together is what the MCAVA is all about, junior and senior members mixing and sharing experiences will keep the MCAVA community strong for the future. The council is currently exploring ways to assist with the cost of these events particularly the AGM for younger members.

Young Valuers

The Young Valuers are our foundation for the future and the committee already has an excellent program in place for the coming year, please support these events and encourage your teams to make time attend. The following events are arranged and a full program is available on the website.

They have already had a meeting at the Allerton Project, Loddington

Thursday 25th September 2025 visit to the Vattenfall Wind Farm at Swinford, Lutterworth followed by a meal at Lutterworth Golf Club.

Charity

Congratulations to Iain who raised £550 for his chosen charity The Country Trust on the evening of the AGM. This sum will help many children from poorer backgrounds to see the value of the rural landscape and improve their understanding of food and the environment.

This year I have chose the Rural Communities Mental Health Network, a mental health awareness and suicide prevention charity for people working and living in rural and agricultural communities and their support networks. It is a relatively new charity set up by two siblings of individuals who took their own lives and it works to help people to talk about suicide, remove the stigma, be aware of mental health and wellbeing and support those in need. I have been on one of their training courses and found it immensely useful.

As I mentioned before the community of the MCAVA is the heart of the MCAVA, this year please make every effort to attend events, encourage your colleagues to attend events and support your younger team members to attend events. I wish you all the very best for the coming year and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

Yours faithfully



Keep an eye out on the
website for events and to
make bookings!



Young Valuers Meeting: The Allerton Project

On 13th June, we held our first event of the 2025 calendar at The Allerton Project in Leicestershire. We were joined by 15 young valuers who enjoyed an estate tour from Joe Stanley.

After introductions, members gained a detailed insight into the project from Joe, including the background to the project and the ongoing research they do.

The Young Valuers then headed out onto the farm for a walking tour to look at some of the various research trials going on across the estate, including some areas of Countryside Stewardship, dual cropping plots and nitrogen fertiliser trials.

The tour was finished off with lunch at the Visitors Centre, which members were able to enjoy in the sunshine. The team would like to say a big thank you to Joe and his team for hosting us and look forward to our next event in September



Exam Prize Winners

Congratulations to Grace Gardiner was awarded the Gavel for the Fellow who gained the most marks in the practical exam.

Congratulations also to Alexandra Abrahams who also received a gavel and the Willoughby Garton Cup for the most marks in the written exam.



A huge thank you to Sophie Nott

"As some of you may recall I have known Sophie since our college days some 25 years ago. Therefore, it is a great honour to give this vote of thanks. Sophie has carried the role for 8 years serving 7 Presidents. She has carried out this role diligently, efficiently and with care and patience certainly when working with me!" - Will Young

Annual General Meeting and Dinner

The AGM and dinner was a wonderful event with raffle prized kindly donated by Mees Blueberries. £552 was raised and able to fund a visit from a local primary school to the Milton Estate via the Country Trust.

Feedback after the event was very encouraging. "Many thanks for hosting two amazing days Milton Estate, and to Iain and MCAVA for funding a visit. The weather was gorgeous and the children had a fabulous day.

I have attached the teacher comments and evaluation forms which are both really positive and just lovely to read. Thanks to Imogen for supporting the school visits last year and good luck back at Harper for your final year."

TEACHER FEEDBACK FORM Country Trust

School Name: Leighton Primary School Lead: Jude Clarke Date of Visit: 9th May
Total number of Children: 27 Number of children with SEN/D: 1 Year Group: 5
Case ID: 9578 Coordinator: Jenny Hall Funded by: Cibus

Please rate your experience by ticking the appropriate boxes

	1 Serious cause for concern	2 Poor	3 Satisfactory	4 Good	5 Excellent
Communication and information prior to the visit/session					✓
Coordinator's delivery of the visit/session (relevance of content, skills and knowledge, organisation)					✓
Partner's contribution to the visit/session (welcome, safety and knowledge, organisation)					✓
Health and safety					✓

We'll always learn to learn. If you have rated any of the above as 1 or 2 please comment below on any issues to help us to improve.

During your session today, how many children did you observe as follows:

	None seen (under 10%)	Some (10-50%)	Most (51-90%)	All/Almost all (91-100%)
Showing improved enthusiasm and engagement compared to when they are in their usual lessons in school				✓
Having opportunities to try new things they would not have experienced otherwise			✓	✓
Applying their learning in a new context/making connection to their previous curriculum learning				✓
Beginning to realise that humans and nature are interconnected - What we do can affect the natural world, and nature affects us too			✓	
Learning about where food comes from				✓
Noticing and exploring the natural world and living things (observing/evaluating/creating/being/asking questions/commenting)				✓

Please share at least one example based on any of the observations listed

Young lad who usually spends his time buried in his hoodie gained confidence in chasing spiders, got really creative making his bug hotel.

Roger Vincent Stone

Funeral to be held on Tuesday 15th July 2025 - 1 pm - St Bartholomews Church, Edgbaston (also known as Edgbaston Old Church). Gathering afterwards is at Edgbaston Golf Club

Roger was born on the 25th March 1933 in Alvechurch and spent his childhood at Stable Door House, on School Lane, where he planted a tree seed which now stands in excess of 80ft. He was schooled at West House, Eastborne College and was called up for National Service in the late 1950s, towards the end of obligatory military service and spent time in Cyprus, in the Royal Signals, during the Eoka Guerilla Uprising.

On return, he was employed by Chesshire Gibson & Co where he trained to be a Chartered Surveyor via a correspondence course at the College of Estate Management. In early 1960 he moved to James & Lister Lea (Bruton Knowles), and became a Partner in 1963, where he remained until he retired from the practice in the late 1990s. He consulted there for a few years before trading until his late 80s as "RV Stone Chartered Surveyor".

Roger was a keen supporter of the RICS, CAAV and the Panel of Arbitrators and was, himself, a qualified Arbitrator, specialising in agricultural rent reviews and matters arising from the Agricultural Holdings Act. He was President of the Rural Practice Division of the RICS between 1988 and 1989 and threw himself into the role.

Roger was a MCAVA Council Member for many years and became a Patron Member in 2021.

He also served with distinction on various CLA Committees and was integral in the formation and running of the RECAP lectures held in Staffordshire.

Roger was a colourful character in every way and was a believer in the sharing of knowledge to help all surveyors improve their ability to serve their clients. He had no fear of standing up to speak, or challenge those with whom he was either in negotiation or dispute and ran both planning and compulsory purchase appeals over many years.

At James & Lister Lea, he built up the agricultural management and professional services side, serving as head agent and Clerk to a number of local estates and charities. His natural capabilities, competence and inquisitiveness, drove him forward in the pursuit of the best deal for his clients.