COMING UP – COUNTY SHOWS

County shows are a celebration of British farming and the countryside. These events are packed with interest, for the whole family. Thousands of visitors, from those ‘just down the road’, to foreign tourists, perhaps holidaying in the UK, enjoy our county shows – very much so. With hundreds of trade stands, a county show is a fantastic day out.

The Nottinghamshire County Show is held at Newark Showground, with show jumping, horse competitions, livestock, events for dogs, plus other animals and pets, even sheep racing and sheep shearing. The magnificent Grand Parade shows off the prize-winning animals from the dairy and beef cattle, plus the sheep classes, and is always a hugely popular part of the proceedings, with very proud owners hoping to receive the Supreme Champion prize. The dog agility is always great fun and the RSPCA Dog Show (bring your own dog), has a lot of interest, with prizes for waggiest tail and handling skills, etc. The superb displays of flowers and plants will interest many, too. Some of the attractions and displays vary each year, so visiting the website will give all the information required and make planning a great day out, most worthwhile. This year’s event is Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th May, 2013. www.newarkshowground.com

The Derbyshire County Show is held at Elvaston Showground and many of the hundreds of attractions and displays will delight thousands of people. A great number of events involve horses and all types of cattle, plus other animals. The Most Elegantly Turned Out Horse and Carriage, and the Ladies’ Hunter Side Saddle events are really wonderful sights to see. The vintage tractors, cars, engines and motorcycles, hold much interest. With dog shows attracting a lot of interest, too, plus other animals and the feathered section, there really is something for everyone. I look forward to learning about the honey bees (these have always fascinated me) and purchasing some local honies. I also find many of the demonstrations most interesting, such as hedge laying. The website has all details of events, which vary each year and is most helpful, making it possible to plan for a very memorable visit. This year’s event is Sunday 23rd June, 2013. www.derbyshirecountyshow.org.uk

As always, Enjoy! Trevor Langley