

Harper Adams Engineering Society Trip report –
Shelbourne Reynolds Engineering Ltd & CLAAS UK, 11/12/2025

In December 2025, 7 members of the Harper Adams Engineering Society visited two leading names in agricultural engineering: Shelbourne Reynolds Engineering Ltd in Stanton and CLAAS UK at Saxham, Suffolk.

Shelbourne Reynolds Engineering Ltd

Founded in 1972, Shelbourne Reynolds is a proud British manufacturer producing stripper headers, hedge trimmers, muck spreaders, diet feeders and more. During the tour, students explored the entire production process—from steel cutting and CNC machining to welding, powder coating, and final assembly. The company’s investment in advanced technologies such as laser cutting and one of the UK’s largest powder coating facilities stood out, as did their commitment to making their own components or buying in custom made parts.

CLAAS UK

The second stop was CLAAS’s UK headquarters, a site steeped in history dating back to the 1930s. Today, it serves as the central hub for UK distribution, training, and parts support, housing the MANNS dealership and Technopark facilities. While no manufacturing occurs on-site, students toured the Technopark area, workshop, parts facility and the academy building, a former assembly line now transformed into a modern training space for dealer technicians and apprentices.

“To see how CLAAS UK invests in training and technical support really highlights the importance of knowledge transfer in engineering”

“Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed the trip and would like to thank all involved for organising and providing a great trip. At Shelbourne Reynolds, the guided tour of their facilities was insightful and provided the unique experience to view the full process of machinery manufacture”

The trip provided invaluable networking opportunities and a deeper understanding of how engineering excellence is maintained across both British and global operations. The Engineering Society extends its gratitude to Shelbourne Reynolds Engineering Ltd and CLAAS UK for their hospitality, and to IAgE, The Douglas Bomford Trust, Lely, Storth, and Husco for their continued support of the society.