# Over 100 tractors join Howden memorial run for teenagers killed in New Year crash



The tranquil countryside of East Yorkshire was transformed into a moving tribute as over 100 tractors embarked on a memorial run for two teenagers who tragically lost their lives in a car crash on New Year's Day. Organised by the Howden Young Farmers, the tribute to William Herbert, 16, and Olly Mitchell, 18, set off from Howden at 10:00 BST and made its way to Bishop Burton, near Beverley. This heartfelt event not only commemorated the lives of the young men but also served as a rallying point for the farming community, bringing together individuals bound by shared grief and support.

The fatal collision occurred at approximately 01:20 GMT on New Year's Day, when a Volkswagen Golf collided with a Vauxhall Grandland in Staithes Road, Preston. Both William and Olly were passengers in the Golf, while the 17-year-old driver was arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving, sparking an ongoing investigation by Humberside Police. The crash also resulted in serious injuries for two other passengers in the Golf and one individual in the Vauxhall. As investigations continue, specialist-trained officers have been assigned to support the families during this profoundly challenging time.

The tributes paid during the tractor run were not merely an expression of sorrow but also a significant fundraiser. Funds raised from the event will go to the Dogs Trust and the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI), both charities closely linked to rural communities. The commitment to these causes signals a broader effort to remember the deceased by contributing positively to their community, a reflection of the values instilled in young farmers.

While the tractor run has ended, its impact resonates deeply within the local community. Events like these highlight the solidarity found in the farming sector, showcasing a blend of grief and resilience. Similar initiatives have gained popularity in recent years, such as the Oswestry Illuminated Tractor Run and a forthcoming convoy in Greater Manchester, both of which have successfully gathered local farmers to raise funds and honour beloved community members. Such gatherings reveal the deep-rooted connections forged in rural life, where the loss of young lives inspires collective actions aimed at altruism.

In the wake of their loss, William Herbert and Olly Mitchell will be remembered not only for their untimely departure but also for the love and unity their story has ignited within their community. The Howden Young Farmers’ tribute exemplifies the enduring strength of community bonds, especially in difficult times, reminding us all of the human capacity to connect and support one another through shared loss.

### Reference Map

* Paragraph 1: [[1]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cewdkwjrn40o), [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cvg9y87dyqeo)
* Paragraph 2: [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cvg9y87dyqeo), [[3]](https://www.upday.com/uk/teenagers-killed-in-new-year-collision-named)
* Paragraph 3: [[1]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cewdkwjrn40o), [[4]](https://allevents.in/goole/will-and-olly-memorial-tractor-run/200028023284307)
* Paragraph 4: [[5]](https://www.hu17.net/2017/04/11/beverley-young-farmers/), [[6]](https://www.bordercountiesadvertizer.co.uk/news/23980077.pictures-oswestry-illuminated-tractor-run-honours-late-young-farmer/), [[7]](https://www.christie.nhs.uk/the-christie-charity/about-the-charity/news/a-100plus-tractor-convoy-to-drive-through-the-streets-in-memory-of-friends-from-the-farming-community)
* Paragraph 5: [[1]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cewdkwjrn40o), [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cvg9y87dyqeo)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cewdkwjrn40o> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cvg9y87dyqeo> - This BBC News article reports on the tragic deaths of William Herbert, 16, and Olly Mitchell, 18, who were killed in a car crash in East Yorkshire on New Year's Day. The collision occurred at about 01:20 GMT on Wednesday in Staithes Road, Preston, near Hull, involving a Volkswagen Golf and a Vauxhall Grandland. The 17-year-old male driver of the Golf was arrested on suspicion of two counts of causing death by dangerous driving. Two other passengers in the Golf were seriously injured, and a passenger in the Vauxhall sustained serious injuries. The article provides details about the incident and the ongoing investigation by Humberside Police.
3. <https://www.upday.com/uk/teenagers-killed-in-new-year-collision-named> - This article from upday News identifies the two teenagers who died in a collision in East Yorkshire on New Year's Day as William Herbert, 16, from Howden, and Olly Mitchell, 18, from Ellerton. The crash occurred at around 1:20 am on Wednesday when a Volkswagen Golf collided with a Vauxhall Grandland in Staithes Road, Preston, near Hull. The article details the injuries sustained by other individuals involved in the crash and mentions that the 17-year-old driver of the Golf was arrested on suspicion of two counts of causing death by dangerous driving. It also notes that the families of the deceased are being supported by specialist-trained officers.
4. <https://allevents.in/goole/will-and-olly-memorial-tractor-run/200028023284307> - This event listing on AllEvents provides details about the 'Will & Olly Memorial Tractor Run' organized by Howden Young Farmers Club. The event is scheduled for Sunday, 18 May 2025, at 10:00 am at Park Farm, Selby Road, Goole. The tractor run is held in memory of William Herbert and Olly Mitchell, who were tragically killed in a car crash on New Year's Day. The listing mentions that more details about the route will be provided soon and encourages attendees to stay informed about ticket information by clicking the 'Notify me' button.
5. <https://www.hu17.net/2017/04/11/beverley-young-farmers/> - This article from HU17.net reports on the inaugural tractor run organized by Beverley Young Farmers, which saw over 70 tractors participating. The event aimed to raise money for two charities and was considered a huge success. Jonathan Dearing, Vice-Chairman of the Beverley Young Farmers, mentioned that the idea for the tractor run came from the popularity of such events and the lack of one in the area. The article highlights the mix of farmers and enthusiasts involved, the range of machinery on display, and the generous donation to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.
6. <https://www.bordercountiesadvertizer.co.uk/news/23980077.pictures-oswestry-illuminated-tractor-run-honours-late-young-farmer/> - This article from the Border Counties Advertizer covers the Oswestry Illuminated Tractor Run organized by Whittington and Oswestry Young Farmers in memory of Will Roberts, who passed away from a brain tumor. The event featured 97 tractors decorated with Christmas lights, traveling a 37-mile circular route through Oswestry and surrounding villages. The article includes photographs from the event and mentions that the best illuminated tractor was judged by the town’s Mayor, Olly Rose. The funds raised were donated to the Lingen Davies cancer charity.
7. <https://www.christie.nhs.uk/the-christie-charity/about-the-charity/news/a-100plus-tractor-convoy-to-drive-through-the-streets-in-memory-of-friends-from-the-farming-community> - This press release from The Christie Charity announces a 100+ tractor convoy scheduled for Saturday, 30 December 2023, in Greater Manchester, Cheshire, and Derbyshire. The event is organized to honor three individuals from the farming community—Harvey Mitchell, Lisa Messenger, and Stuart Wainwright—who passed away. The convoy aims to raise funds for The Christie Charity, supporting cancer patients and their families. The article provides details about the route, the organizers, and the fundraising goals, emphasizing the community's support for the event.