

From the Chairman...

Hello Devon YFC

We are now well in to the New YFC year and many Clubs across the county have had their Club AGM's. If you haven't had yours yet I'm sure it's not far around the corner. A great way to get the year started of your club is to hold your New Members Night. It doesn't have to cost the Club much but just an evening with some simple icebreaker games is a brilliant way to get everyone having fun and feeling involved. Planning your programme well in advance is always well worth doing as it not only gives you chance to get things organised but it tells everyone else in the Club what's coming up. Sit down with the Club Leaders and Officers and get brainstorming.

Club Stock are one of the foundations of YFC and it is fantastic that this has gone from strength to strength over the past couple years. Many clubs have been busy sourcing their Club Stock recently but there is still time if you want to get on board. It would be fantastic to see even more Clubs at the County Show and Sale this year and go on to take the brilliant opportunity of showing their stock at the Devon County Show. Whether it be pigs, sheep or cattle you don't have to be an expert to take part and there are plenty of people out there willing to give you advice.

Coming up we have the Harvest Festival at Exeter Cathedral, I look forward to seeing the Cathedral in all its glory with the decorated pillars from six Groups across the county. This lovely evening is a chance for

past and present members as well as the NFU and supporters to celebrate the Summer and harvest we have had. It would be brilliant to see more current members there this year to celebrate the Harvest Festival.

Dinner and Dances are in full flow right across the county which is brilliant to see; after all we do all love the chance to swap boiler suits for black tie suits. I know many Clubs take this opportunity to present any money they may have raised to their chosen charities. Make sure you promote this in your local media to showcase all the great fundraising YFC does.

Finally well done to all the members who have been taking part in Competitions recently. A special mention should go to Claire Tythcott and Matthew Crooke who took part in the National Stockman Finals. This is an intense competition with Stock Judging four types of animals as well as submitting a project. They both did very well especially Matt who came away with second place.

Colin Tucker
County Chairman



Have your Club done a Community Project this YFC Year? Please email a write up & pictures to admin@devonyfc.co.uk by 12th October



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Supporting Devon Young Farmers

www.devonyfc.co.uk

The Devon Rural Hub, Amory Building, Cheriton Bishop, Exeter EX6 6JH
Tel: 01647 24120 Email: admin@devonyfc.co.uk

The Office is open: Mon-Thu 8:30am-4:30pm and Fri 8:30am-1pm

Yarcombe YFC

On bank holiday Monday, 27th August Yarcombe YFC held a Charity Raft Race down the River Axe in aid of our charities. The race was a timed event which started at Whitford Bridge and ended up a mile or so along at Colliford Bridge. A total of 14 teams entered the race, with a total of 14 teams finishing! A fantastic effort to see that no rafts ended up sinking along the way. Congratulations to the team of Yarcombe boys who finished the race in 1st place. Thank you to everyone who entered and special thanks to Dan Olive, Social Secretary who organised the event.



Honiton YFC

For the first time since 1993, Honiton YFC have built and put together a carnival float. The theme of our carnival float is 'Irish Madness', chosen by the members of the Club. We are taking part in the East Devon Carnival Circuit over the next couple of months and our first success was at Seaton Carnival, where we won our class on our first outing. Ash Baker and his team of carnival officers and all the club members involved have worked hard over the Summer months putting it together. Everyone involved has thoroughly enjoyed being part of the carnival float and has loved participating in the first few carnivals so far! As a Club, we can't wait to take part in all the other carnivals we have coming up over the next few months, it's something we can all look forward to as it is so much fun and gets all the members involved!



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Witleigh YFC

On Sunday 26th August Witleigh held their 5th Charity Ploughing Match, by kind permission of the Hill Family at Seven Crosses, Tiverton. The day was extremely wet from start to finish but this didn't put off keen ploughmen, with 40 tractors and ploughs in attendance the field soon became full of competitors. With the aim to raise money for our chosen charity for the year Children's Hospice South West, MIND and Guide Dogs for the Blind, this was very successfully achieved raising over £450. It was fantastic to see such a huge age range of competitors, with Novice Ploughmen up to those who have been doing it for years. The girls ploughing was also very well supported to, well done to all those competing. The Novice Ploughmen was won by Bradley Howells and Overall Champion YFC Ploughmen by Rachel Scott-Douglas. Thanks must go to the Reed family and the Pincombe family for all their help.



Rural+ is coming your way!

With the days getting shorter at this time of year Clubs often start looking at the new programme and what can be done during the Autumn and Winter evenings. The Devon YFC training team is ready to come to your Club to deliver the **Rural+** training session in partnership with FCN. Last year the Farm Safe session went down really well with nearly 450 people taking part. The aim of the **Rural+** session is to raise awareness of mental health and rural isolation issues that young people and others may face living in rural areas and it will look at where to turn to for support. The session will include;

- **The stigmas associated with mental health.**
- **Different mental health issues.**
- **5 ways to wellbeing.**
- **Where to go to for further support.**

The delivery team is made up of seven Devon members and recent members along with me and FCN volunteers. Two of the team will come to your Club where ever you are in the County and deliver the session which takes about 90 minutes. If you would like to book in your **Rural+** session please do contact me.

If you are one of the Clubs that did not manage to have the Farm Safe session last YFC year we are still also happy to run this session as well **Rural+** on another evening.

If you would like to know more about either of the sessions please contact me:

Nick Creasy

Operations Manager

01647 24120 or email nick@devonyfc.co.uk  Nick Creasy



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Junior Scholarship

I would like to start this report by saying thanks to all the Juniors members who went, Mark and myself had an amazing time and this is down to you guys being so chilled, well behaved and including us in everything you did.

So we started our trip to Estonia stood in the Bus station at Exeter waiting for the 1.35am bus to London. When we finally got to the airport, check in complete, bags were weighed (with some members at max weight already) we headed for breakfast. All aboard the flight for take-off, we ran down the run way with some members holding on tight to the seats.

Touch down in Estonia at 5pm we headed for the train station to catch the train to Janeda. At the other end we were greeted by some 4H members including Gerda and Eda. The evening consisted of settling in and ice breaker games and a walk to the lake.

DAY 2 - Mark's birthday! We started the day with more ice breaker games where all of us and some 4H members were baaing like sheep, eating chocolate with knives and forks and throwing shuttlecocks into pint glasses. After our famous potato lunch one of the local members gave us a tour around the town and let us explore in the Museum where we had a sing song on the piano with Katherine playing; this became a regular thing when a piano was to be found. We all then went for a swim in the lake and gave Mark a cake, a few cheeky presents and homemade card. We finished the evening with three hours of sauna, steam room and pool.

DAY 3 - We all headed to Rakvere Medieval Castle for a tour and a scary walk through the torture chambers. We also made gun powder and fired them off in a cannon. After having lunch by the big bull we headed to a youth centre for a game of basketball and a look around the town. When we got back we all headed down to the lake for a swim and a game of volleyball finishing in the evening with a talk about the history of the village.

DAY 4 - Everyone was so excited to do some farm tours. We first went to a new dairy farm with 80 milking cows and a birds nest on top the building as big as a mini car. We then headed to our second farm which was bigger with 120 cows and around 2,100 acres for arable farming. After the boys got very excited to see a combine (like they have never seen one before) we headed for our lunch. Once bellies were full we all went to have some fun



zip wiring and boating on the lake. With some members clinging onto the platform and not wanting to let go, I feel they all had amazing fun. On the way back we passed an amazing waterfall stopping for a well needed ice cream. Getting back to the guest house we headed down the lake for a swim and volleyball. The swimmers had fun jumping off a fallen tree into the water. In the evening the farmers came back to give us a talk about farming in Estonia and our members told them about our way of farming. We all learnt how they don't have many hedges and fences and how we have many. We also learnt some Estonian and the life style. We also learnt that an average Estonian person drinks 26 pints per year so you can imagine their shock when we told them our amount. We finished off the evening with some Estonian food and English tea and apple pies that Becky bought along.

DAY 5 - This started with a train journey to the Capital Tallinn to do some sight-seeing. We climbed the 286 steps up the Oleviste Kogudus Infoleht to some amazing views although some members couldn't make it out the door to see the views. With everyone excited for lunch we headed to McDonalds for a burger or two. After a short time at the market we got back on the train to Janeda for a swim in the lake and a game of volleyball with Grandad who was a sticker for the rules; him and Scott didn't become best friends. After a few games we headed for a late night swim in the lake.

DAY 6 - We headed to a Youth club to have a look around a School and the Youth Club; we played some games with the younger ones of the group and did some stencil artwork. In the afternoon back at the guest house we went for a swim in the lake and volleyball. In the evening we had another night of luxury in the spa.

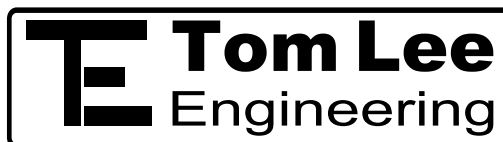


DAY 7 - We all went to the forest for game of Frisbee golf. With some members doing well the other spent most the time searching for their Frisbee amongst the trees we gave up and headed for an ice cream. After lunch some members went for a boat ride, where members tried to sink each other's boat. Then some members did some Segwaying in the forest. Will and Katie took a while to return, when they finally appeared we learnt that Katie had fallen off in the woods and all Will could do was film her lying on the ground. He did help her retrieve the Segway out the trees though. On return to the guest house we went for our last swim across the lake and last game of volleyball. In the evening Gerda and Eda with the rest of the 4H said their goodbyes with champagne and treats for us all. We then headed for a huge last meal and some folk dancing.

DAY 8 - We said our goodbyes and headed back on the train to the airport. We boarded the plane and set off heading for London. Arriving at Exeter just before 9pm we all got into our cars and headed for home; Mark and myself could now finally relax!

Again I would like to thank everyone who came and their families for trusting us to care for their children. Thanks to all our sponsors and anyone that supported our events to help us raise money. I'm sure all who went will agree we all had such good fun and have gained a lot of friends and amazing memories.

Sam Edworthy



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NFYFC Scotland Scholarship

My two week Scholarship started in Edinburgh at the beginning of June. From the airport I hopped on a tram which took me reasonably close to the Hostel where I and the other scholarship delegates were staying. There were 14 of us in total travelling from all over the world from as far as Australia, Canada and Switzerland. Over the next three days we went on various farm tours and explored Edinburgh. We were invited by SAYYFC for a drinks reception and John Scott, a Conservative MP showed us round the Parliament which was very interesting.



The next day we went on a trip to see the Kelpies, a Scottish Landmark and spent the rest of the day touring around the countryside. In the evening we all got dropped off at a restaurant where we met a member from our host family. I was staying with Kayleigh who is the Secretary of Biggar YFC. She lived on a mixed commercial sheep and beef farm in Wiston near Biggar. It was a beautiful area and very rural which I enjoyed. I was treated as one of the family and felt very at home there.

For the rest of the week we went out with a different Club within Lanarkshire each day. It was a great way to see the different areas of the County and meet lots of different YFC members. I have so many highlights from that week. One of them was visiting a hill farm just outside of Biggar



which stocked 6000 sheep and a herd of pedigree Charollais cattle. It was a very different and vast environment; it was really interesting to see and hear how they farmed the hills.

A few of my other highlights from this week were a tour around Tennent's lager, taking part in a YFC Stock Judging competition and visiting Edinburgh's Botanical Gardens. We also went on a boat trip around Loch Lowman which was brilliant along with a bike ride around an island followed by visiting a very large dairy farm.

We finished off the two weeks visiting the Highland Show back in Edinburgh. The show was a great end to our Scholarship with plenty to see and do. Once the show was over for the day we headed to the YFC Show Dance which was a fantastic chance to say goodbye to everyone before heading home.

The whole experience was a once in a life time trip. Meeting like minded people from all over the world was brilliant and getting to experience and see things that you would never normally have the chance to see. It was a great mix between sightseeing, tours, landmarks and socialising. If there is anyone out there thinking of applying...DO IT! It's a free farming holiday with amazing people, what's not to like?

Sarah Broom
Yarcombe YFC



International Travel

Hello all!

I can't believe my year is almost over now, time has flown by!

Both the Juniors and Seniors have now returned from their Scholarships. It sounds like the Juniors had a brilliant time in Estonia (please check out their report to hear what they got up too!) and the Seniors also sound like they had a fun time in France too - look out for more from their trip in the next newsletter!

Since my last report too, we have had Sarah Broom and Layla Hill return from National Scholarships - Sarah went to Scotland and Layla to South Africa. I hope they had a fantastic time on each of their trips.

With this year's Scholarships out the way, it's time to start to thinking about next year! Application forms are in your Club mailing or can be downloaded www.devonyfc.co.uk/competition-info. The deadline to get your applications in is Friday 2nd November and the interviews will be held on Saturday 17th November at the Amory Building. I strongly encourage anyone to apply for a Scholarship - they are a fantastic way to see life in another Country and also make some friendships to last a lifetime!

That's all from me,

Louise Kitton
International Travel Chairman

Sports & Social

Hey all,

Firstly at the beginning of the month we were supposed to be Mackerel Fishing at Ilfracombe; unfortunately this was cancelled twice due to the bad weather. Thank you too all the teams that were willing to get a team together after it was cancelled first time for a second go but hopefully we will have better luck next year.

On a more positive note we had a successful evening at Pennycombe Farm for our End of YFC Year Wild West Party. Members seemed to be loving the rodeo bull with varied levels of success on it! Thanks must go to Richard Berry for having us for the event. We had an average turnout of members, there was no trouble and made some good money for County so thank you to those who attended.

Coming up on the 27th October we have the Pillar Decorating at Exeter Cathedral. Groups have two pillars to decorate in an hour and 45 minutes and there is a £40 cash prize for the winning pair. Then on the Sunday 28th we have the Harvest Festival so hope to see lots of you there.

Lastly don't forget the 15th December for the Christmas Ball...get it in your diary. It's shaping up to be a good night, a night you will not want to miss.

Thanks

Adam Howe
Sports and Social Chairman

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BASICS OF STOCK JUDGING

PREPARING TO JUDGE

Ensure you have a white coat. Wear it at all times and keep it buttoned up. Be smart, look the part. Have a working pen or pencil (pencils work better in an abattoir).

BEFORE YOU START

Establish what has to be judged. Are you judging animals for breeding, finished or finished potential?

Establish how long you have to judge the class. Read the judging card to establish the criteria against which you will be judged.

COMING UP ...

County Live & Carcase Training - end October/ early November 2018
watch out for the confirmed date

National Live & Carcase Beef/Pig Competition - 17th & 18th November at English Winter Fair, Staffordshire Showground

STAND BACK

Have a good look from a distance at the group. Understand what you have to judge, its general appearance, type, etc.

First impressions are often the best. Make a judgement by eye and confirm by careful handling. When judging livestock for slaughter refer to carcase quality and killing-out percentages. Don't rush in.

GIVING REASONS

- Establish how long you have, usually two minutes are allowed.
- Memorise your reasons, as much as possible.
- Picturing the animals will help.
- Stand up straight and look the judge in the eye.
- Speak clearly and slowly enough for the judge to follow.

Describe the stock fully, refer to any distinguishing features (eg white face). As you deliver your reasons compare as much as possible, going from front to back or back to front using the same style for all animals in the class with emphasis on the important areas. This means that you are less likely to get confused and allows the judge to follow your reasons more easily.

Use the full time allocated, the clearer your reasons, the better your chances.

Thank the judge when you have finished – whether you enjoyed the experience or not. Judges rarely remember if you thank them, they always remember if you don't!

Competitions

Well what a start it had been to the new Young Farmers year! Matthew Croke and Claire Tythcott both made the journey to take part in the National Stockman of the Year Final. A massive well done to Matthew who came 2nd place.

Since my last report we are now in to the Speaking Competitions - on 5th September was County round of Open Brainstrust. It was a very entertaining evening full of some lively discussions. The results are as followed -

1st South Dartmoor

2nd East Devon

3rd Exe Valley

Best Male Speaker - Jordan Winter (South Dartmoor)

Best Female Speakers - Helen Bellew (Tarka) and Laura Stanbury (Exe Valley)

Coming up we have Call My Bluff, Intermediate Brainstrust, Junior Public Speaking, After Dinner Speaking and also Situations Vacant!!

I can't wait to see you all their competing for your Groups/Clubs!

Emma Cole
Competitions Chairman



Vice Patrons of Devon Young Farmers Clubs

We are pleased to welcome Shelia Rowland as a Vice Patron of DFYFC.

We will publish names of new members in the newsletter and the annual report as well as inviting them to certain exclusive events during the year as a token of our appreciation for their continued support of YFC in Devon.

If you would like to become a Vice Patron please call the office on 01647 24120 to request an application form or go to www.devonyfc.co.uk and select Your Support where you will be able to download the application form.



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- Vet & med, Animal ID pigs/ sheep/ cattle
- Employment rules, Farm assurance additional requirements, Basic payment scheme

Attendance Certification will be given.



Farm Administration Course 'The Essentials'

We have received more interest on running a further Farm Administration 'The Essentials' Course so will be potentially be looking at this to start in January 2019 if we have enough interest. Please register your interest by emailing skills@devonyfc.co.uk or call 01647 24120. Approximate cost will be £100 each but this will hopefully decrease with funding.



Bicton College November Courses

Prices are excluding the discount of 10% for YFC Members. Some courses will have separate assessment dates – contact the YFC Office for more information.

Course	Dates	Price
CS30	5th – 7th / 19th – 21st	£420
CS31	5th – 8th	£570
How to use a Chainsaw	5th	£130
PA1 & PA6	12th – 14th	440
CS38	12th - 16th	£625
CS39	26th, 27th & 30th	£420
Woodchipper	126th – 27th	£265
PA1 & PA2	12th, 14th & 15th	£470

If you are looking at course dates for Duchy College please do get in touch with skills@devonyfc.co.uk

Christmas Skills

It's not too soon to think about whether your Club are going to do a Christmas skill for one of your Club Meetings as people will soon get booked up to train you. Whether it be wreath making, flower arranging, cake decorating or a craft session there is always something you can do based around Christmas. Many Clubs already hold sessions and maybe this is an opportunity to join them or pair up with a Club to put on a new session for you both. If you need any help do get in touch and remember to let the office know who took part in any Skills sessions you put on.

B+E

Car + trailer training and test available in Taunton or Exeter
 YFC member offer: £430
 Non YFC member offer £480
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Please do contact Francene if you have a course in mind let us price it for you and research the options available.
Contact details: 01647 24120 or email skills@devonyfc.co.uk



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Diary Dates

Oct	
4	County Tenancy Training Evening at the Amory Building, 7.30pm
5	Lewdown YFC Cider and Pasty Quiz at Lewdown Victory Hall 7.30pm start. Teams of up to 6 £5 per person to include first drink and pasty. Book a team with Becky 07415 064989. In aid of Tavistock Memory Cafe
5	Cheriton Tedburn Dinner and Dance at Fingle Glen, 7.30pm. Three course meal and disco - £20 per person. Contact Louise for tickets 07792 518439
6	Exe Valley Group Dinner and Dance at Tiverton Hotel. £25 three course meal. To book contact Jake Henson
8-12	NFYFC Young Farmers Week
11	County Intermediate Brainstrust at the Amory Building
13	South Dartmoor Group Harvest Supper at Moreleigh Village Hall 7.30pm. £10 for two courses
14	County Hockey Final at St Luke's Science and Sports College, Exeter. Register 9.30am / Play Start 10am
18	Board of Management at the Amory Building, 8pm
19	Newton Abbot YFC Dinner and Dance at Lavender House, TQ13 7QY 7.30pm sit down. DJ, Photographer, Black Tie. £25 per person. Contact Matt 07800 5597381 / 07546 941646
19	Winkleigh YFC 80th Dinner and Dance at Highbullen Hotel 7pm for 7.30pm. Two course meal, live band, black tie event. Tickets £30 contact Pete 07530 322490
20	Clawton YFC Big Breakfast at the Cow Shed, Holsworthy 9am – 1pm
20	North Devon Group Harvest Festival at Bishops Nympton Village Hall, 7pm followed by supper
23	County Junior Public Speaking at the Amory Building
25	Members Meeting at the Amory Building, 8pm
26	Clawton YFC Halloween Disco at Tetcott Village Hall 9pm – 1am. Members 16+/Non Members 18+ R.O.A.R
27	County Pillar Decorating at Exeter Cathedral between 3.15pm – 5pm
28	Harvest Festival at Exeter Cathedral, 7pm service being followed by refreshments. Everyone welcome
Nov	
2	Deadline for Devon YFC and NFYFC Travel Applications
3-4	Officer Training Weekend at Adventure Okehampton
7	Agrifest South West at Westpoint
8	County Written Pub Quiz at The Waie Inn, 7.30pm for 8pm start
10	County After Dinner Speaking Final at the Amory Building, 6pm
14	County Leaders Training at the Amory Building, 7.30pm
15	General Council at the Amory Building, 8pm
16	Newton St Cyres YFC Dinner and Dance
17	County Travel Interviews at the Amory Building
17-18	English Winter Fair – National Beef/Pig Live & Carcase Competition

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