

AUGUST 2023

NEWSLETTER

DEVON
Federation



FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

Wow what a packed July we've had! I'd like to start by congratulating and thanking everyone who has represented Devon last month at the National Finals. Be it sport, speaking competitions, dance, jump rope, fashion or stock judging, or anything else besides, you have all done Devon YFC proud with your hard work and determination to give it your best shot.

I have also had the honour and privilege to have been asked to do some judging this month, and also over the next couple of months, at your rallies and shows! I'm having a marvellous time seeing all that you are getting up to and achieving. Please do reach out if there's anything you'd like me or the county team to try and come along to.

Coming up in August we have the return of Beach Volleyball and plenty of club and group activities to keep everyone busy. Not to mention our return exchange to Shropshire YFC for their Chairman's Ball and farm tour - I hope to see lots of our senior members there.

Summer will be over before we know it and we'll be into AGM and speaking competitions season, so I hope you all enjoy August and make the most of it!

VICKI GILBERT
COUNTY CHAIRMAN



www.devonyfc.co.uk

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NFU Mutual

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COUNTY ORGANISER REPORT

FERN LINDSAY

Another busy month of NFYFC competition finals and well done to everyone who took part. There were some outstanding results and the federation is very proud of you all.

The Rural Hub is still busy with regular conference bookings and back up to a full complement of tenants. If you are looking for a meeting space in central Devon please don't hesitate to get in touch with the office on 01647 24120 to find out more about our facilities.

Planning is well underway for the upcoming YFC year and there are sports, socials, AGRI events and competitions aplenty. Our online calendar is now up to date to help clubs with planning their new programmes and the full document will be shared with clubs very soon.

We look ahead to AGM season and it's time to start considering the new top table officers. Being a club, group or county officer is a really worthwhile experience as it builds your confidence and you'll learn lots of new skills. Taking on a vice role gives you the chance to learn the ropes and

for anyone considering a spot on the top table, there are plenty of experienced YFC members on hand to help you along the way, so why not give it a go?

"Whether you think you can, or you think you can't - you're right." - Henry Ford.

Thank you to Okehampton YFC's president Ruth Maile for sharing these wise words with us this month.



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SPORTS & SOCIAL

ANNELIESE RETALLICK



July kicked off with our Splashdown Quaywest takeover. We had a brilliant turnout and fun was had by all! This month we also had a successful weekend in Stafford at the National Young Farmers sports competitions. Devon were well represented over the weekend and had teams compete in street dance, hockey, rounders and basketball. Well done to the East Devon men's rush hockey team, the Devon County ladies rounders team and the Exe Valley junior basketball team who all narrowly missed a space in the play-offs. Shout out goes to our dedicated County Chairman Vicki who sprained her ankle playing rounders, which was then followed by a trip to A&E.



MIXED HOCKEY

1st
2nd
3rd

Newton Abbot
Witheridge
Withleigh

On the 16th July, we held our County Mixed Hockey competition at St Luke's school in Exeter. The competition encountered teams of 7 people with a minimum of 3 of each gender on the pitch. We had 6 teams take part - well done to all the teams who took part and to our ref Ian who helped to make the day run so smoothly.

TRAVEL REPORT

SOPHIE BOULD-LYNCH



Hi everyone! The travel programmes, travel details and itineraries have now been finalised and released to our lucky members attending scholarship with both trips going ahead this month!

I wish everyone the best time and I am very much looking forward to their return where we can discover what they have been up to, learning all about their experiences and time away and reading their reports on their return!

COMPETITIONS

DAWN RADFORD



On 8th July it was national competitions day, well done to all the members that took part in the weekend. A special mention must go to Mary Lucas Ridge from Winkleigh YFC for becoming national champion in Fashion Make and Model, as well as Witheridge YFC who came second in the Street Dance.

Also, Ruby McCombe from Culm Valley YFC was awarded Best Chairman for Junior Public Speaking and Izzy Davis from Culm Valley YFC came third place Chairman for Junior Reading.

On 11th July, Luke Parkhouse also came 6th at the Sheep Shearing national competitions finals at the Great Yorkshire show – well done Luke!



Finally on 14th July, Rosie Bennett, Kelly Wakeham, Emily Gay, Emily Davis, Lauren Parkhouse and Chloe Eyles competed at the National Dairy Stock Judging Finals at the Yorkshire Show. A huge well done to Lauren Parkhouse who came first in the overall Junior category. Also, our Devon A team consisting of Rosie Bennett, Emily Davis and Lauren Parkhouse also came an incredible 2nd place in the overall team category. A huge achievement.



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AGRI REPORT

MEGAN BROOM



On Wednesday 4th July, over 90 members visited Netherexe Barton by kind permission of the May family. The business comprises of beef, arable and sheep enterprises alongside making blends for Crediton Milling and running a well-established farm shop and restaurant. We began the evening at the farm where we looked around the beef unit and the blending plant. It was really interesting to learn how the business has grown over the years. We then headed down the road to the Exe Valley Farm shop and restaurant, which sells local produce including their own beef and lamb. The space

has also extended to include a function room. The family put on a lamb spit roast for us to enjoy at the end of the evening. A massive thank you to the May family for hosting the walk and for your kind hospitality.

I am currently organising the Agri Business Programme for the winter. The focus of evenings is to receive professional advice from speakers that specialised in specific areas of the industry. Look out on social media for more information and for the jotform to sign up. Have a lovely August!



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CLUB & GROUP UPDATES



NEWTON ST CYRES

Our Annual Raft Race was held on the 2nd of July and we had a total of 16 teams race down the River Exe.

Teams from our own club along with Whimble & Broadclyst, Witheridge, Cruwys Morchard, Withleigh and Chulmleigh took part in the race.

The standard of rafts this year was much higher than before, meaning no rafts capsized in the first five minutes unlike previous years! Just a note for next year, boats won't be accepted - it is a raft race after all!

The winning team came from Whimble & Broadclyst,

maintaining their title for the 3rd year running and beating the raft race record that they set last year. They completed the race, which is just shy of 2 miles, in a very speedy 48 minutes! Full results, times and photos can be found on our Facebook & Instagram Pages.

Finally, a huge thank you must go to all the teams and supporters, Helen for all her help on the BBQ and Stuart Luxton and the Greed Family for allowing us to use their fields.

Katie Davie



HONITON YFC

On Sunday 23rd July, 36 people gathered to take part in a fun run/walk in memory of Jacob Chugg-White, we would like to say a massive thank you to everyone that has donated so far and took part in the event.

Members have also been busy getting their entries together for Honiton Show. We would like to thank everyone that has made an effort to enter. Good Luck to everyone on the day! We also hope to see everyone at the Honiton Show After Party on the 3rd August - an event not to be missed.

Ella Down Parkes



BRADWORTH YFC

Yorkshire Exchange!

On 23rd-25th June, 9 members from Tadcaster and Wetherby YFC in Yorkshire joined us for a weekend of fun in Devon! The weekend started with a Cream Tea at Rectory Farm Tearooms in Morwenstow and a walk around the cliff. We also headed to North Tawton for a tour of the Rothamsted Research North Wyke Farm, as well as a Tour of Elsdon Farm near Coplestone. On Saturday we had a tour of Scadghill an AHDB monitor farm, hosted by Liz and Bob Priest, then we had a go at surfing at Widemouth bay. In the evening, we held our annual Foam Party which our exchange members enjoyed!

On 14th to 16th July, 10 of our members travelled the 6 hours to Yorkshire. On the Friday we

attended the Great Yorkshire Show - which was brilliant! On Saturday we had a tour of a huge potato and arable farm, then we headed for a Almscliff Crag, some huge rocks on one of Tadcaster's members uncle's farm. On Sunday we were up bright and early for a tour of a Tadcaster member's pig

farm and linseed oil business Pureflax. Then it was off to Becca Wilson's farm for a talk on her Podcast 'Becca & Lizzie'. Finally, we had a huge Carvery (with a Yorkshire pudding of course!) in Whixley. Tadcaster were such brilliant hosts and I think we've made some YFC friends for life!

Alice Wyness



IVYBRIDGE YFC

It has been another busy month for Ivybridge with lots of socials and events to keep us busy. Firstly, we gave the garden at Cornwood Primary School a spruce up. We then had a stand at our home farm shows with lots of games and information for everyone.

We then took part in our group debating competition. We're very

proud of our team with some members who had never taken part in public speaking before coming 3rd!

We also recently had our annual stand at Yealmpton show which was a great day. The rain didn't stop us and we had lots of games to keep everyone entertained. A big thank you to S&B Engineering and Serpells for their support and to our dedicated members.

Kayleigh Lovegrove





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NEW SIGNAGE PROVIDES ADVICE TO THE PUBLIC WALKING NEAR CATTLE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

- New signs raise awareness of walking through fields with cattle
- Contact with livestock a major cause of serious and fatal injury for farm workers and the public on UK farms
- 86% of dog owners say they would find signage helpful when out in the countryside

Incidents with livestock remain a major cause of fatal and serious injury to farm workers and the public. In a joint campaign launched during Farm Safety Week, which runs from Monday 17th July to Friday 21st July, the UK's leading rural insurer has teamed up with the Farm Safety Foundation and the NFU to raise awareness. NFU Mutual has produced new signage for farmers to display in the countryside to help members of the public who may come into contact with cattle.

NFU Mutual's latest survey of over 1,100 dog owners worryingly found 50% would keep their dog on the lead if chased by cattle, while 18% would pick the dog up. Eighty-six percent welcomed advice being displayed, saying they would find signage about walking in fields with livestock helpful. The signs call for walkers to move quietly and predictably to avoid any alarm to cattle, highlighting how livestock can react to people's presence. They also encourage walkers to keep their dogs on leads but release immediately if chased by cattle and to give cows space if they are on or near the footpath, re-joining the route when safe to do so.

NFU Mutual Rural Affairs Specialist Hannah Binns said:

"Farmers are proud to feed the nation and enhance the environment for everyone. "But it is important to remember these idyllic, remote locations are also places of work and home to millions of cows.

"These signs aim to highlight livestock may be nearby and encourage walkers to enjoy the countryside responsibly and safely."

Farm Safety Foundation Manager Stephanie Berkeley added:

"As we have seen over the past few years, the rise in the numbers of general public visiting our beautiful countryside has grown and this gives rise to new issues when thinking about health and safety on your farm.

"Farming activities can pose risks to you, your workers, and also to any contractors or visitors – including walkers, hikers and cyclists.

"In a week where it has shown incidents involving livestock continue to be the main reason members of the public lose their lives on our farms, we are proud to support this new campaign by NFU Mutual and remind farmers of their legal duty to consider the health and safety of members of the public using public rights of way through their fields."

Signs will be available from your local NFU Mutual Agency office shortly. Search NFU Mutual to find your nearest office.



Welcome to the Devon YFC job board! Here we display job adverts from the farming and rural community across the South West. If you would like to advertise a job vacancy for your business, please contact organiser@devonyfc.co.uk. **Find out more information, with links to apply at www.devonyfc.co.uk/jobs.**

Job Advert



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TALKWORKS Tips for August!

August is a great opportunity to get outside and be more active. Just 30 minutes of exercise a day can make a big difference to your overall mood and mind-set. It can relieve stress, improve sleep and also help to calm your mind. Plus, exercise is a great way to meet new people and try something different. Why not use one of your lunch breaks this week to go for a walk or run; and boost both your mental and physical wellbeing at the same time!

If you are struggling to find the motivation to be active, and this is impacting your mood and day-to-day life, TALKWORKS can help. The service is part of NHS Talking Therapies and free to access for adults (age 18+) across Devon, with short waiting times for appointments. **Find out more information about TALKWORKS and the support they can offer on their website, or call the team on 0300 555 3344.**



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The Meeting Owl Pro is a 360 degree smart conferencing camera with high resolution video and premium sound. Perfect for hybrid meetings.



DEVON YFC TRAINING

We have lots of training opportunities available to members, many of which are heavily discounted for Devon YFC members with support from The Laura Persey Trust and Dartington Cattle Breeding Trust (DCBT). **Visit our training page on the website for links to apply: www.devonyfc.co.uk/yfc-training**

Training Opportunity

Lantra Rough Terrain Telehandler 1-2 day course

This is for members with any abilities/experience and also for those looking for a refresher @ Hollyfield Farm, Tiverton. £280 per person however funding is available to help subsidise the course costs. Please contact Devon YFC on 01647 24120 if you require more information about how you can apply for funding.

Farm Administration Course

From working out VAT calculations to understanding cross compliance and inspections, this 6 week course run by Julie Tucker (JT Rural Office Services) aims to equip you with administrative skills for your farm business. The course will cost £130 per person, but on completion of the full course YFC members will receive a £65 refund due to funding from DCBT.

The first session will be held on Wednesday 20th September at the Devon YFC Centre 6:30pm-8:30pm, with every other session held weekly on a Tuesday at the same time. Read the full outline of the course on our website.

RURAL BUSINESS & FINANCE GROUP

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The workshops will run from 7.00pm - 9.00pm, with a break for refreshments (pizza!) half way through, and are being held on the first Wednesday of each month in our Taunton office.

The final session will bring all of the previous sessions together in a case study.

The format of the workshops will be an introduction / presentation on the topic, followed by an interactive session with worked examples, where questions are encouraged from participants.

We feel that these workshops would be of great benefit to you and hope you are able to join us.



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WORKSHOP DATES

1 November 2023
6 December 2023
3 January 2024
7 February 2024
6 March 2024
3 April 2024

TOPICS COVERED

Understanding your Accounts,
Tax and Cash Position
Banking / Finance
Forecasts and Budgets
Diversification and Planning
Preparing Tenancy Applications
Grants and Subsidies
The Future of Farming

For further information or to
book your place, please contact
Grace or Holly;

grace.popham@albertgoodman.co.uk
holly.porter@albertgoodman.co.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUGUST

2nd: North Devon Show
3rd: Honiton Show & After Show Disco
5th-11th: Junior Scholarship to Sweden
10th: Okehampton Show & After Show Party
11th: Anstey YFC Hi-Vis Party
12th-17th: Senior Travel Scholarship to Switzerland
13th: Kenn Valley YFC Aqua Park at Adrenalin Quarry Trip
18th-21st: SWA Junior Activities Weekend
18th: North Molton YFC Big Beach Bender
18th: Chagford YFC After Show Party
20th: County Beach Volleyball
25th: Haldon YFC Hawaiian Party
25th: Exe Valley YFC Pig Racing
26th-27th: Devon County Exchange with Shropshire YFC
26th: Axminster YFC 90th Anniversary Event
27th: Kenn Valley YFC Olympics
27th: Witheridge YFC Tractor Run

SEPTEMBER

1st-4th: AGRI Trip to Holland
7th: General Council Meeting
8th: Exe Valley YFC Speed Shear
9th: Clawton YFC Charity Auction
16th: Mystery Night Out
20th: Farm Admin Course starts
22nd: Dartmouth YFC New Members Evening
23rd: Haldon YFC Dinner & Dance

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communications@devonyfc.co.uk.