



# DEVON YOUNG FARMERS NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026



**TAG RUGBY FINALS**



**OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES DAY**



**DEVON COUNTY SHOW 2026**

[www.devonyfc.co.uk](http://www.devonyfc.co.uk)

The Devon Rural Hub, Amory Building, Cheriton Bishop, Exeter, EX6 6JH

Tel: 01647 24120 Email: [admin@devonyfc.co.uk](mailto:admin@devonyfc.co.uk)



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# FROM THE CHAIRMAN

**At this year's Devon County Show we saw 1,150 entries, which is a real testament to the commitment within Devon YFC.**



**May has been another busy and positive month for Devon Young Farmers, with a real mix of club visits, competitions, and county events showcasing the strength and enthusiasm across the federation.**

Throughout the month, I have continued visiting clubs and it has been great to see such strong engagement at a local level. I attended **Roborough YFC** where I took part in their bingo night - a fantastic event for a junior club, which was well attended, well organised, and run smoothly by their members. It was great to see such confidence and teamwork on display.

I also visited **Lewdown Young YFC** for their cider and quiz night. This was a brilliant evening with some truly mind-boggling questions, and it was clear to see how much effort had gone into making it a fun and social event for everyone involved.

Towards the end of the month, I joined **Culm Valley YFC** for their cream tea event. This was another excellent example of a club engaging with their local community, with a great turnout from members who worked hard to deliver a successful event.

One of the highlights of the month was, of course, the Devon County Show, held between 21st–23rd May. This year we saw an incredible 1,150 entries, which is a real testament

to the commitment and passion within Devon YFC. It was fantastic to see so many familiar faces, including friends of Devon YFC, sponsors, and supporters. I would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who attended my Chairman's Reception on the Friday evening.

Finally, on 30th May, we held our **Outdoor Activities Day**. A huge thank you goes to the Courtier family at Gooseford Farm for kindly hosting the event, as well as to all the sponsors who donated equipment and supported the day. It was a great opportunity for members to get involved in a wide range of activities and try something new.

Looking ahead, there is plenty to be excited about. Many of our clubs are currently preparing for the **National Competitions Weekend** taking place on 4th and 5th July in Staffordshire.

We also have our **Past and Present Members Ball** coming up on 11th July. There are still plenty of tickets available for the evening party, which will include a live band, auction of promises, and DJ. It promises to be a fantastic evening and it would be great to see as many members, supporters, leaders, advisory members, and friends there as possible. Arrival for the evening party is from 9pm.

*A. Retallick*

**Anneliese Retallick  
County Chairman**





We also couldn't have done it without our tent sponsor Clinton Devon Estates, thank you for your ongoing support. This year, we also had some kind sponsorship of other classes too, which helps us put on a fantastic show - thank you to:

- Cheese Larder, South Molton for sponsoring the Stockman Competition
- Jack Tucker Livestock for sponsoring the Beef classes
- James Pryce Tractors for sponsoring the Sheep classes
- Nest Associates - Georgina Davie for sponsoring the static floral classes
- Sarah Broom Floral Design & The Laura Persey Trust for sponsoring the live floral art

Once again thank you to everyone involved, including our brilliant photographers Hannah Frost and Emily Davis for all the stunning photos!

The May calendar really was packed, and didn't leaving much time for a breather. The following weekend we had the Outdoor Activities Day,

by kind permission of Gooseford Dairy. Thank you to our sponsors Southern Timber, Hamblys, KJ Stoneman and Fry & Sons for supporting the Fence Erecting, Pallet Recycling, Tractor and ATV Handling.

We've also recently had the SWA competitions day. Members travelled to Lackham College to compete in cubicle, stockjudging and auctioneering - a huge well done to all those who represented the county, and those who got placed too!

Finally, I would like to finish this report, by saying a huge thank you to all the members, supporters and sponsors who support the competitions programme, this month has been packed, and it is fantastic to

see so many members learning new skills, and showing off refined ones in the vast array of competitions we have on offer! A massive good luck to all those who have qualified and will currently be training for the National Finals weekend in July - let's show them what Devon can do!



**Thank you to all of our Devon County Show and Outdoor Activities Day sponsors:**



**CLINTON DEVON ESTATES**



**KJ Stoneman**



**HAMBLYS**



**THE CHEESE LARDER**





# AGRI Lily May

Last month we had our annual Agri debate, this year's topic was 'Feeding the Algorithm: Is Social Media Helping Agriculture?' I was joined on the panel by Emily Peters from The Udder Stuff, Laura Stanbury from Weston Farm and Mathew Latchford from NFU Mutual.

We had a balanced discussion covering all sides of the topic including business marketing opportunities, public perception, misinformation, mental health pressures and what the future of social media within farming might

look like. Thank you to David Fursdon for chairing the debate, to the panellists and to NFU Mutual for sponsoring.

Coming up soon we've got a tour of JT Livestock's calf rearing unit and a talk from Jack Tucker. Also, later in the year a tour of Shearwell Data at Wheddon Cross - both dates to be confirmed, so keep an eye on our socials and I hope to see lots of you there!



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# SPORTS & SOCIAL

## Alex Rodd



**In May Devon County Show took centre stage and with it the Tag Rugby Finals in the main ring did not disappoint!**

### Tag Rugby Results

- 1st:** Haldon
- 2nd:** Witheridge
- 3rd:** East Devon
- 4th:** Withleigh

Also at Devon County Show we had the Devon YFC shearing competition, a massive well done to all the competitors, it was amazing to see so many taking part.

### Novice Shearing

- 1st:** Mary Lucas Ridge
- 2nd:** Chris Ley
- 3rd:** Henry Rich

### Open Shearing

- 1st:** Henry Rich
- 2nd:** Chris Ley
- 3rd:** William Hopper

Next up we had Outdoor Activities Day and the Tug of War competition. Well done to Anstey men and Honiton ladies for winning their categories and good luck to both teams alongside Yarcombe Ladies, Honiton Men and Honiton Juniors for qualifying and going on to

represent Devon at the South West Area finals on 28th June.

The East Devon senior mixed hockey team were victorious at the South West Area competitions day and will go ahead to compete in the national finals on the 5th July and will be joined by Exe Valley Juniors for dodgeball and South Dartmoor juniors for rounders! Again a massive good luck to all.



I write this report on the eve of the big Race Across Devon Chairman's Challenge fundraiser, so I hope to see many of you on route and any donations would be massively appreciated.

On 20th June we have the Devon Clay Pidgeon shooting competition



which is always hotly contested, the sign up is still available, so get locked in and booked in for a great day ahead.

And coming up we have the Past and Present Ball, with only 1 or 2 tables left I look forward to seeing many of you there and please do go and grab your evening tickets if you're yet to get yourself booked in. It's set to be a great night with great entertainment and good friends!



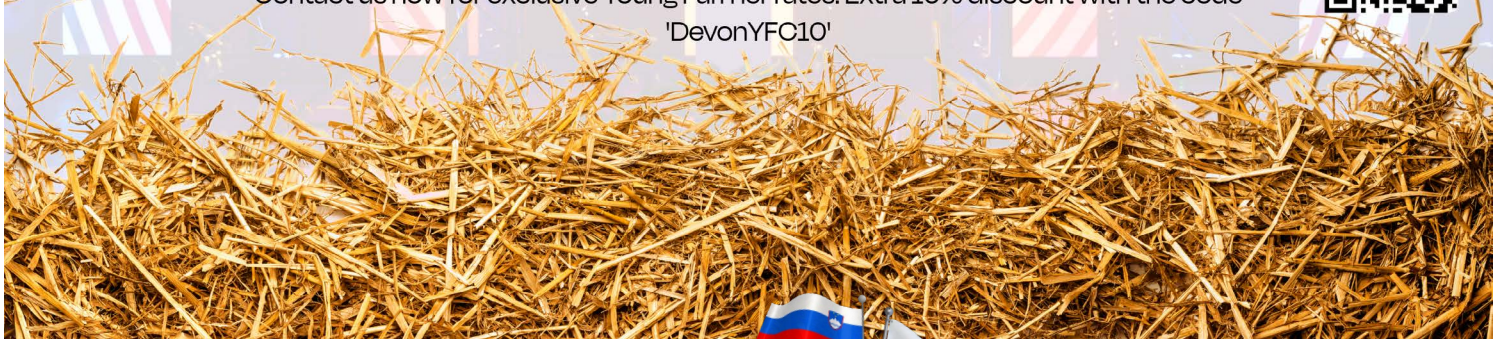
## Planning a barn dance, awards night, or summer ball?

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## TRAVEL Lois Sing

**June has arrived, which means it's time for our Senior Scholarship group to begin their exciting scholarship trip to Poland!**

Over the coming week, the group will experience Polish culture, explore historic cities, learn about agriculture and rural life, and build friendships with young people from across the country.

The group will begin their journey in Krakow, where they will experience local culture and meet with members of the Polish Rural Youth Association. During the week, they will visit Auschwitz, spend time

discovering Warsaw, and see some of Poland's most well-known landmarks.

The trip will then move into rural Poland, where members will visit farms, learn about agriculture and rural communities, and spend time with local Polish Rural Youth members. Highlights include visiting a unique herbal education centre and attending National Field Days, one of Poland's largest agricultural events. The exchange offers a fantastic opportunity to learn, explore and represent YFC abroad while creating lasting memories and international connections.

**DEVON YFC**  
*Past & Present Ball*  
**SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY**  
**WROFORD MANOR**  
TWO COURSE MEAL • AUCTION OF PROMISES  
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# CLUB UPDATES

YFC updates from across the county



Our recent Woolsey YFC Car Wash was a great success. We would like to thank all the lovely people who came down to get their cars and 4x4s cleaned, even the very muddy ones!

Well done to all the members who took a day off to help with the cleaning and cooking in the kitchen. Your hard work was greatly appreciated. Keep your eyes peeled for our next car wash at Woolsey Village Hall.

As many of you will remember, in March we took on the challenge of cycling from Woolsey to Weymouth on 5th–6th March.

Our brave and determined members took on this challenge for a fantastic cause. We were raising money for Children's Hospice South West in Fremington. It took two days of hard work, determination, and plenty of encouragement along the way, but we successfully completed the challenge and raised an amazing total of £3,213.53.

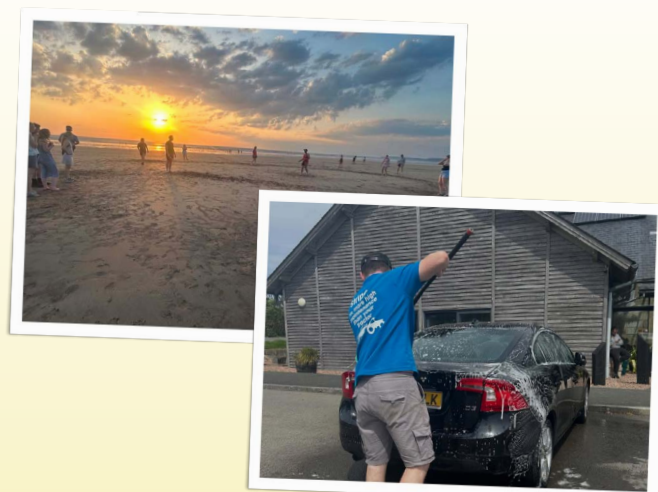
On Monday, three lucky members had the opportunity to hand over the cheque to the Hospice and were given a tour of the home in Fremington. They were able to see first-hand the incredible work that takes place there and how the money raised helps to make a difference to the lives of young children and their families.

We are already looking forward to fundraising for our next chosen charity and would like to thank everyone for their support.

In May, we took part in a Tarka Fun Meeting on Westward Ho! beach while enjoying the sunshine. Our June Fun Meeting will be a visit to Hatherleigh Abattoir, where we will have a look around and learn more about how things work. We are looking forward to what promises to be an informative evening.

Looking ahead, members are busy painting the carnival float and helping to run bars at local events.

## Georgia Daniel





# CLUB OF THE MONTH Supported by SOUTH WEST Farmer

## TOTNES YFC

**Totnes Young Farmers has enjoyed a successful and busy few months, with members representing Devon YFC at a national level in one of the organisation's most prestigious competitions.**

The club's biggest recent achievement was reaching the National Entertainments Finals after progressing through the South Dartmoor, Devon and South West Area rounds. The finals were held at The Hafren Theatre in Newtown, Powys, where Totnes YFC competed against the top eight teams from across England and Wales.

Their performance, titled "Rocking All Over the World", featured a variety of singing, dancing and acting performances inspired by countries across the globe. From dancing in the Scottish Highlands and comedy sketches in the Australian outback, to singing in Paris and cheerleading in America, the production showcased the creativity and teamwork of the club's members.

**Totnes YFC Club Secretary Lily Field says:** "Including all our backstage helpers, we had around 30 members involved in this year's entertainments competition. We started writing the production at the beginning of November, began rehearsals in January and then competed at the national finals at the end of April, so it's something we've been working on for a long time.

"It's been amazing to see younger members giving it a go for the first time. Some were quite shy and nervous at the start, but by the end they had really grown in confidence and are already talking about doing it again next year." Lily adds: "Our around-the-world theme gave members the chance to try a variety of different acts and really push themselves out of their comfort zones.

"Competing at the national finals was an incredible experience and we were very proud to wear our

Totnes YFC shirts. It felt like a real privilege to represent Devon on a national stage."

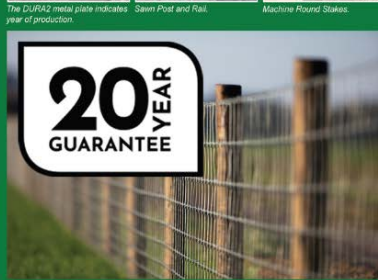
As well as their success in entertainments, Totnes YFC members have also recently been competing in stock judging competitions and taking part in the Devon YFC Show and Sale. Several members showed sheep for the first time, gaining valuable experience and confidence in the ring.



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## Friends of DEVON YFC



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The supporters club for Devon Young Farmers friends, followers and past members. Support the running of our federation whilst also receiving these benefits:

- Entry into three cash prize draws throughout the year!
- Stay up-to-date with Devon YFC news by receiving our monthly digital Devon YFC newsletter
- Invitation to the County AGM and our annual Chairman's Reception at the Devon County Show.
- Invitation to special commemorative events.

All funds raised through Friends of Devon YFC will support our ongoing programme of activities for all members aged 10 – 28.

**Become a Friend of Devon YFC today and you can make a difference to over 1,500 young people across Devon.**





## JUNE

- 12th: Bow's Big Bash
- 12th: Devon YFC Race Across the County
- 13th: Lewdown YFC Big Breakfast
- 20th: County Clay Pigeon Shooting Finals
- 20th: Cheriton & Tedburn YFC Grand Summer Ball
- 28th: SWA TOW
- 29th: Travel applications open

## JULY

- 4th: Chulmleigh YFC Duck Race
- 4th-5th: NFYFC Competitions Finals
- 11th: Devon YFC Past & Present Ball
- 23rd: Members Meeting
- 25th: South Dartmoor YFC Field Day
- 31st: Withleigh YFC Barn Bash



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