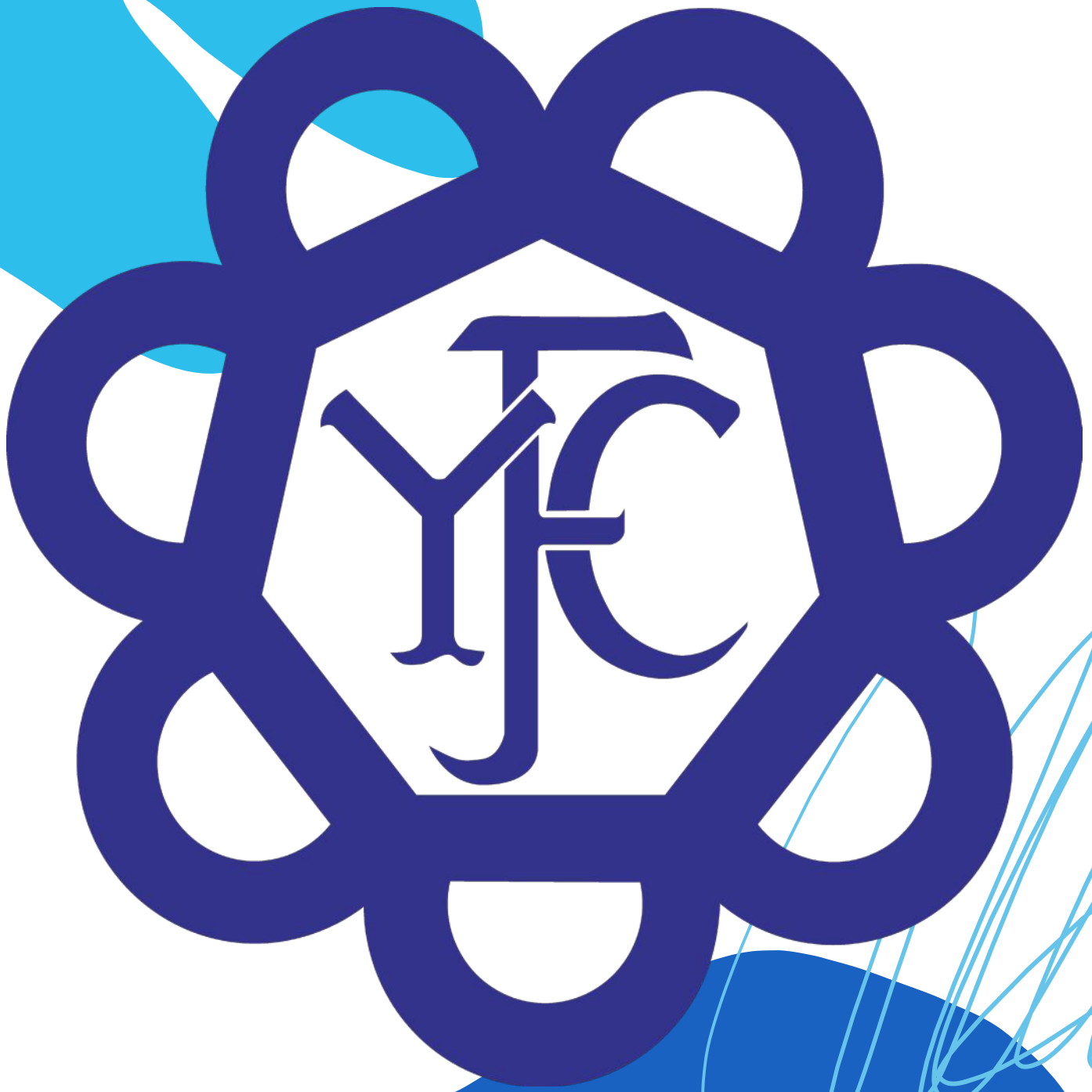


NORFOLK YFC  
ANNUAL MAGAZINE 2025



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## Thank You

The Federation would like to thank all of our supporters for 2024 - 2025. Without your support Norfolk YFC wouldn't be able to help and support young people across the County.

### In particular we would like to thank:

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Easton College

Mr R Alston, Silfield Farm Ltd  
The Proctor Family  
The Robertson Family  
The Munday Family  
Foxburrows Farms  
Honningham Thorpe Farms  
And many other individuals and supporters.

## Editor's Report

Welcome back to another edition of the Norfolk Young Farmers Annual Magazine. It has been a pleasure to edit this year's magazine to showcase all of the incredible efforts of our clubs and everyone across Norfolk YFC.

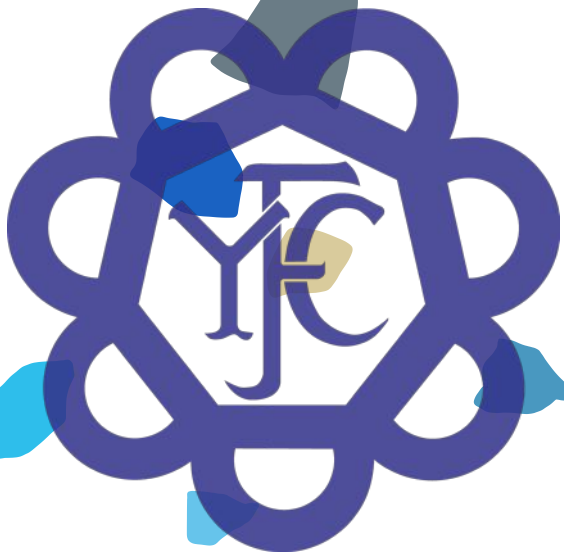
As you are reading this issue, I'm sure you'll agree that the enthusiasm and dedication from our members is second to none and they are such a wonderful asset to the County.

Thank you to everyone who has made this edition possible, I hope you all enjoy reading and thank you for supporting Norfolk YFC.

*Mel Hawes*

Marketing Chair 2024 - 2025





# County Chair's Report

We'd like to welcome you back to another addition of the Norfolk YFC Annual Magazine!

Firstly, a massive thank you to Ben Johnson for his hard work and dedication as Norfolk Young Farmers County Chairman in 2023 - 2024. Ben's efforts and tireless commitment to the role meant Norfolk YFC was in fantastic shape when we took on the role as joint County Chair's and it's been a privilege to follow him this year.

We started the year with the Harvest Festival at Norwich Cathedral where we were invited to join in the service and represent the fantastic local produce grown on Norfolk Farms. Following this, we held our AGM at the Norfolk Showground, an evening which saw members and associates join to reflect on the success of the previous year.

Throughout the winter we hosted a range of inter-club competitions such as the Larking Gowen Quiz, Hockey League, Winter Competitions Day and Sports Day which saw members get stuck in and challenge themselves to try out new skills.

In April, we held our Annual Farm Event, kindly hosted by Morley Farms. This event saw a range of competitions from tractor driving, rabbit skinning to tug of war. It was a brilliant opportunity to see our Young Farmers and Countrysiders members work together. This year we decided to host our Stockjudging Competitions as a separate event to allow more members to get involved and learn. The event was kindly hosted by the Proctor family and was a huge success with both



experienced members attending and those trying out Stockjudging for the first time.

With the growing success of our Countrysiders clubs, this year we were eager to see the return of the Countrysiders Campout, a weekend of conservation activities and building new friendships. We were kindly hosted by Honningham Thorpe Farms and the Countrysiders took part in a weekend of activities including raft building, building bird boxes and a visit to the Goat Shed! We are very proud to see this campout return and excited to see it continue to grow in future years.

We have been impressed with the enthusiasm, commitment and heart of our YFC membership this year and we're certain that this will continue to grow in the coming years. We have both been involved in Norfolk Young Farmers for many years now and we can wholeheartedly say that this is a fantastic organisation and we are immensely proud to have been given the opportunity to lead the membership this year. We would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to our brilliant members, our fantastic office team who work so hard behind the scenes and to all those who support Norfolk YFC in making it the amazing organisation it is today.

Your County Chair's,  
Poppy & Alice  
2024 - 2025



The two most important things are what you will learn about yourselves and others

Ches Broom  
County President 2023 - 2025



# COUNTY PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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Being a Young Farmer member means you have signed up to quite a unique experience. Not only does the organisation stand out from other youth groups, but it is also one of the few that really does open doors and provides opportunities.

If you join a hockey club, you can expect to play hockey, a stock club and you will learn about stock, but if you join a Young Farmers Club expect the unexpected. Yes, you will play many sports, develop your public speaking skills, improve your general knowledge, learn first aid, create works of art, gain carpentry/welding/building skills, and of course you will learn about agriculture and the countryside. But the two most important things are what you will learn about yourself and others.

As you read the club reports included in this year's magazine, I hope you will be able to hear the enthusiasm that comes with working as a team. Keeping a club ticking and raising thousands of pounds for charity, takes teamwork, communication and leadership; words that are hidden behind the sense of fun portrayed in the reports.

And speaking of fun, it is now over a year since the 80th Anniversary Ball. What a night that was! Over £50K was raised for the Skills Initiative Fund and many members are now developing their skills and careers because of it.

It has been an absolute honour to witness the growth of the members and the organisation as a whole this past year. With an increase in senior membership, 3 new Countrysiders Clubs and the return of the Conservation Campout; the County is going from strength to strength.

Competitions were taken to a new level this year with a number of fresh ideas from the entertaining duo, Luke and Nathan. We have branched out in the marketing department with umbrellas being just one of the many new additions to Mel's 'YFC Shop', and who could forget the humongous popcorn machine Ed and team built for the Rally social.

As you read about the antics of the club members, remember there is a team of County Officers and staff in the background keeping the cogs whirring. The dedication and commitment of those involved far surpasses any words of thanks but I hope they too reflect in the achievements of the members and the role they have personally played.

And now to you as a reader and supporter of Norfolk YFC. Our thanks if you are already a judge, steward, host or sponsor, our contact details should any of those roles appeal ([office@norfolkyfc.co.uk](mailto:office@norfolkyfc.co.uk)) or if you just want to ensure a secure future then we would welcome you as a Friend of Norfolk YFC.



# County Office Report

Hello and welcome to the office report 2024 - 2025.

This year in the office we welcome Angela Holloway as our Countryside Development Officer. Angela has settled into the job really well and has been pivotal in the planning of this year's Countryside Campout kindly hosted by Honingham Thorpe Farms. Alison Andrews, County Organiser left the organisation during December 2024, we wish her luck with the future.

We have moved offices since the last report, we are still based at the Norfolk Showground but now located in the Stimpson Room in the MacGregor building. The County Office is open Tuesday – Friday 9-3pm. All members and supporters are welcome to visit us or give us a call.

We would like to thank the County Committees, we couldn't have had such a successful year without all of your efforts. The Norfolk YFC calendar has been jam packed this year with lots of competitions and social events.





So far we have had Winter Competitions Day, Sports Day and the Farm Event and we now look forward to our biggest event of the year The Rally! This year it is going to be a bit different with the Rally taking place on a Saturday with the Rally social to follow in the evening. A big thank you to Robert Alston at Silfield Farms Ltd for hosting.

We also want to say a big thank you to all the companies and charities that we work with. Without your support, input and understanding of why Norfolk Young Farmers is the best rural youth

organisation, we would not be able to continue.

We also want to thank the members, without you and your dedication to YFC we would not be here.

The Office Team would like to wish you all a successful harvest time and look forward to 2025-2026 and the new County Committee Team.

Lucy Long, Kate Bowler and Angela Holloway, The County Office Team, Norfolk FYFC



# Dereham

Dereham Young Farmers' had a brilliant start to the year attending our first ever Soap Box race at the Annual Hunstanton Soap Box Derby. This saw members come together to help make the Soap Box and to support the club on the day. It's safe to say everyone had a jolly good time!



Next up we held our Annual Halloween Social this was one of the best attended nights of the year which was a great success for the club and a testament to the hard work and efforts of our members.



With Christmas just around the corner, we held our Annual Carol Singing evening visiting advisory members, friends and past members. This year we were even joined by a donkey!

Throughout the year the club has had success at competition days taking home lots of certificates!

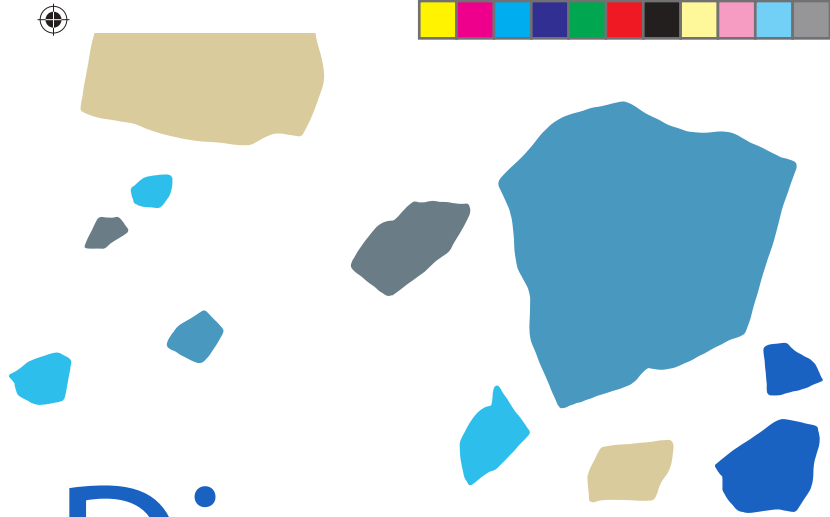
In April we held our Annual Dinner Dance at Carrow Road where we were joined by members past and new to celebrate the success of the club.



In May, our members took part in a 80km bike ride around Norfolk to raise money for Dereham Cancer Care, our chosen charity this year. Also, in May we hosted our 80th Anniversary Celebration Barn Dance which will see members from through the years get stuck into good food, drinks and line dancing!

We've had a very successful year so far with lots of new faces and look forward to the final few months of this year!





# Diss

We started the year with a Dinner Dance followed by a spectacular firework display and amusing Pub Golf.

Our chosen charity for the year is Sands, a stillbirth and neonatal death charity, helping those who have been affected by the death of a baby. So far we have raised an amazing £3,000 through carol singing, a football match, and Shake Your Shamrocks Bongo's Bingo.

Highlights included farm visits, agronomist talks, Morris Dancing, and members sharing their NFYFC study trips. We competed in County hockey, Battle of the Borders, and represented the County in rugby and football at Eastern Area level.

Most recently our members were involved in a club exchange but there's still more to come for Diss as we look forward to a club exchange and of course, the Rally!





# DOWNHAM MARKET

Downham Market Young Farmers are celebrating our 80th year this year.

We have over 40 members and have chosen three charities to raise money for. These include The British Heart Foundation, The Ellen MacArthur Cancer Trust and The Magpie Centre.

We have hosted 7 charity events to raise money for these charities. We hosted a tractor run in January with over 100 tractors in attendance.

We have had some great meetings this year including Ben Burgess, guest speakers from our charities as well as our preparation events for competitions. Our men's team won the Tug of War at Farm Event and will be representing Norfolk at Eastern Area. We also were able to open up our Countrysiders Club this year which has been a hit.





# HARLESTON

This year marks the 87th Anniversary of Harleston Young Farmers, over the years we have chosen many different charities to raise funds for through partaking in various activities, from tractor runs to bike rides, previously we raised an astonishing £16,000 for prostate cancer, a charity which was very close to our members hearts.

This year we brought back to life our clay shoot to raise as much as we can for the Norfolk Blood Bikes. Due to the dedication of our members, and generosity from sponsors and donors along with those who participated, we were able to raise just under £3,000, and the clay shoot had seen its highest turn out for over 30 years, seeing 157 entries.

Throughout this year the club have been involved in many other events, from hockey matches, to Farm Event, where as a team we took away some really awesome placings, even if there were a few sore heads from our annual Dinner Dance the night before.

We have had some wonderful meetings that offered a wide variety to our members and we have many more to come as the year draws to a close.

Now in the final stretch, the club are focusing on prepping for our annual social, NITE of LITE, where we provide the NITE, and you bring the LITE, it has been a very successful social over the years and we hope it will enable us to raise a little more for our charity, this year we have a new DJ LightForce, and will also be having the Chip-buckets cater for us, will be a fantastic event so can't wait to see you all there!!!





# LODDON

Since September, Loddon Young Farmers' have had a jam-packed and rewarding year, filled with activities, competitions, and community involvement. Kicking off the year with a successful recruitment drive, we welcomed several new members who quickly became part of the family. Weekly meetings have included everything from livestock talks, car treasure hunt, History of Firearms and mock auction to mental health awareness and escape rooms.

Autumn/Winter saw us throwing ourselves into Hockey matches and ballroom dancing, with great results across the board. Our Annual Dinner Dance fundraiser was a huge success, helping us support local causes and future club events. As autumn turned to winter, we got festive with our Christmas tree fundraiser, raising money for our chosen charity, EACH.

Spring brought renewed energy as we had a talk from a farrier, Clinks Care Farm, Robert Tilney and a careers talk by our very own Mark Granger. We took part in baking, craft, and others at Farm Event — bringing home several certificates! We also held our First Tractor Run which was a fantastic success involving 40 tractors on a route that took us around Loddon and surrounding villages.

As summer approaches, we're gearing up for more shows, social events, and our end-of-year party. It's been a fantastic year of learning, laughter, and leadership. Loddon Young Farmers continues to thrive thanks to the enthusiasm of our members, the support of the community, and our shared love for farming and rural life. We can't wait to see what next year holds!





# NORTH ELMHAM

After Celebrating our 80th year last year, the club began the year attending many exciting meetings. We have golfed, quizzed, Lazer-tagged, taken part in a murder mystery evening, carved pumpkins, been on tours and so much more.

This year we are raising money for the Brittle Bone Society, a superb charity funding research and vital equipment for people with Osteogenesis Imperfecta. We had the amazing Liz from the charity come and talk to us about the work they do, which inspired us to get raising some money. This has come in the form of multiple events; our first ever tractor run in October, Annual Valentine's Ball and our ploughing match.



Our Valentine's Ball has become one for the Young Farmers calendar and this year was no different! It has been a pleasure to raise money for such a brilliant charity. We enjoy getting stuck in at competition days with great success, one of our members went on to get a 2nd place at Eastern Area in Situations Vacant. Our hockey team also had great success in the hockey league with 1 loss and 1 draw across the 3 league days.

What a fantastic year for the club, we are looking forward to what next year will bring!



# North Walsham

Our chosen charity this year is the East Anglian Air Ambulance (EAAA). We thought this was the perfect choice as it's so close to many of our hearts.

Last December, we hosted our second Charity Christmas Light Tractor Run and the turnout was incredible, with over 100 vehicles taking part. It was great to see the positive impact we had on the local community and the unwavering support for our industry. To top it off we managed to raise £5,000! And we hope to continue this tradition for years to come.



This year we have had a huge variety of meetings ranging from a combine talk from Ernest Does to a charity pub quiz night. We make sure our weekly meetings are inclusive to everyone, whether you are a farmer or not! We also had some great results in Sports Day this year, where we came first in rounders. We held our 81st Annual Dinner Dance and we were blown away by the generous donations to our raffle, with that and our fivers in we raised £550.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole club for this year's support and commitment enabling all of this year's achievements. And a massive thank you to our advisory committee for their advice and guidance!





# Reepham

Reepham YFC is one of the smaller clubs within the County, with only a few of us being farmers. Proof that you don't need to be a farmer to be a "young farmer".

Our club this year has chosen Mind to be our charity for the year as it is a charity that means a lot to one of our members. So far to raise money for our charity we have held our very first jumble sale, raising nearly £300. This, along with the profits from our Christmas tree sales, will go towards our donation to Mind at the end of the year. A few of the other ways we are going to raise for this charity is our annual tractor run on June the 1st.

Our club maybe small but its definitely mighty when it comes to sports. With the girls coming first in netball at Sports Day, then going on to Eastern Area and giving the neighboring Counties a good run for their money. We also competed in the hockey league, not only for us but helping out a few other teams to help make sure no one misses out on the fun.

We normally meet at Whitwell Station on a Tuesday night (7:30pm onwards) unless we have an out meeting. So far this year we have had talks from Silostop, a company that produces plastic sheets to cover maize clamps for cattle food and AD maize. We have also had talks from our local agronomists and chemical suppliers, Agri.

When we aren't meeting at Whitwell we have been having meetings out and about at Avocet farming Ltd, Lowland Search and Rescue based at Wroxham and a very interesting tour around Aylsham Police Station where lots of questions were asked by our members, as you can imagine. Some our fun upcoming meetings include a tour of The Goat Shed, swimming and the ever so entertaining trip to Funky Monkeys. If any of this sounds like it could be something up your street then don't hesitate to get in touch and remember you don't have to be a farmer to be in young famers!!!





# Swaffham

At Swaffham Young Farmers we have a keen, active and enthusiastic group of members who are always the first to get up, have a dance and support other club's events.

Each week we put on a variety of meetings, we are always doing something different, there's something for everyone! We are the youngest club in Norfolk but we're just as competitive as all the others.

This year is Swaffham's first big birthday celebrating 10 years in May! To mark the occasion we have held an Easter Charity Tractor Run which was a huge success with a fantastic turnout from young farmers and members of the public alike. We raised a tremendous £1,921.02 for our chosen charity POPYRUS - prevention of young suicide.

This is quickly followed by our clubs upcoming 10th Anniversary Barn Bash on Saturday 10th May - our biggest fundraising event of the year! Swaffham like to do things our own way so the Barn Bash is our version of a dinner dance with a twist! A black tie celebration in a barn with live music, hog roast and more! Our club works exceptionally hard creating

every last detail ourselves, from building the bar, to the decorations, baking the desserts and so much more! Our members take pride in being able to make these things happen ourselves, it's a real team effort!

Our chosen charity for the year is POPYRUS - prevention of young suicide. A truly incredible charity who has the ability to help & take action in some of the toughest situations. A charity close to lots of people in the farming industry. POPYRUS have been involved in our club a lot this year from giving our members important talks and training to coming out to provide information at our fundraising events.

I'd like to mention how truly supportive each member of Swaffham Young Farmers is to one another. Our club wouldn't be as strong as we are today without each of you.





# Wymondham

We've had a wonderful year celebrating our 80th Anniversary, from competitions to dinner dances, we really have done it all!

The year started with an excellent new members night at The Goat Shed, which saw lots of new faces as well as members from our Countrysiders club who have moved up to join us in the seniors.

All of our members have been keen to get stuck in to our fundraising efforts this year for our chosen charity Break, a Norfolk charity helping children and young people in the care system. A highlight has of course been our 59th pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk, which raised over £5,000. Preparations are already underway as we look towards another milestone of our 60th pantomime next year!

Competitions have been a great success for us this year with many new members giving things a go. We're very fortunate this year to have the Norfolk YFC Countrysiders, Junior and Senior members of the year in our club. We had excellent results at Winter Competitions Day, Sports Day, Stockjudging Day and of course Farm Event where we regained The Wheatsheaf Shield. Many of

our members have already competed at Eastern Area this year with many more of us heading to represent Norfolk at the Summer Competitions day in June where we hope to advance onto Nationals.

It has truly been a fantastic year for the club with all of our members embodying the 'Wymondham ways' to help make the club a success and ensure that we can hopefully celebrate another 80 years.



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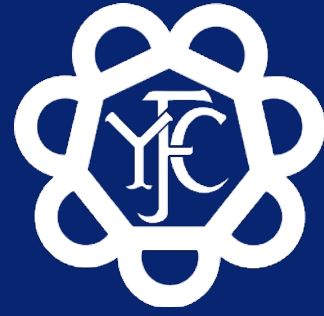
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# Competitions

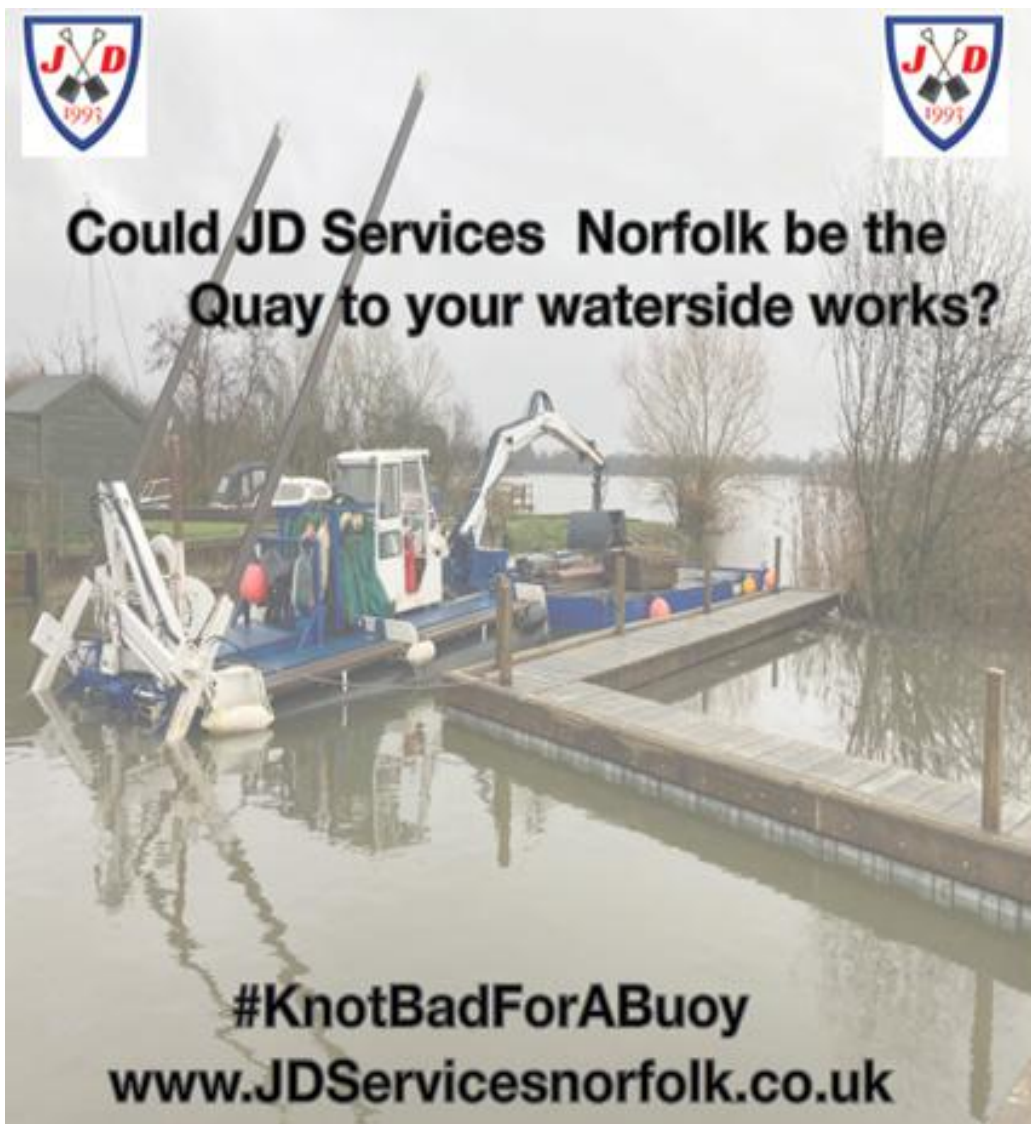
Competition days were back with a bang this year. From Winter Competitions Day to Farm Event, our clubs have certainly been busy showcasing all their skills and hidden talents!

We've also had lots of our members qualify to represent Norfolk at Eastern Area in a variety of different events such as Ballroom Dancing, Situations Vacant and Member of the Year.



A massive thank you must go to all of our hosts, judges, stewards and sponsors. Without your help and support our competition days just wouldn't be possible.





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# County Sports

All of our clubs love a bit of competition and this year has been no different, particularly when it comes to sports. Whether it's taking to the pitch or the court, we love a bit of friendly rivalry!



Well done to Diss YFC Men's 5-a-side team, Reepham Ladies Netball team and Wymondham Ladies Tug of War team for qualifying to compete at Eastern Area.



March saw the return of Norfolk YFC Vs Suffolk YFC rugby match held at Diss Rugby Club, with Norfolk retaining the trophy for the third year. Thank you to Suffolk YFC for another great game.



# Countrysiders (





# Campout 2025





# HARLESTON COUNTRYSIDERS

Harleston Countrysiders continue to have a varied and action-packed programme with all sorts of meetings to keep the members entertained.

From Ready, Steady, Cook, to games night to the more traditional meetings of stockjudging and farm walks, we've certainly packed a lot into the last few months. Before the end of the year is finished, we will have also enjoyed a night at Congo Rapids Crazy Golf as well as preparing for the YFC Rally.

In the last year, we've had a steady stream of members coming through the Clubhouse doors - we are, of course grateful to Harleston YFC for the use of the brilliant clubhouse fortnightly on a Tuesday evening. The clubhouse is a great meeting place-it'sjustbigenoughtoholdour20plusmembers and we've been able to use the facilities to create some tasty creations in the kitchen and have even used the car park to perfect our woodworking skills.

Members have competed in a number of competitions and we have had several successes along the way at Farm Event, Winter Competitions Day and through Stockjudging Days. It's clear that we have some very competitive members who are willing to get stuck in - in fact, if they continue to be as competitive as they currently are, the future looks bright for Harleston Countrysiders.

Harleston Countrysiders is only possible because of the leaders, regular helpers, parents and of course, the members who come back week after week with smiles on their faces.





# WYMONDHAM COUNTRYSIDERS

This year being a member at Wymondham Countrysiders has involved a lot of fun.

Our programme has been full of various activities, some of the members favourite activities have included a Tug of War training session with the Seniors, a visit to Pecks over in Dereham, a falconry evening, archery and many more.

A few of our members took part in the Wymondham Young Farmers annual pantomime - Jack and the Beanstalk, which helped to raise money for the Senior's charity for this year, Break.

We've entered lots of competitions as a club, and while we may not have won all of them, each competition entered has been given our best shot. Stockjudging competitions have been very successful over this year, with a member going to national in September, and going to Eastern Area in June.

Over the last year we have watched new Countrysiders join our club, and become key parts, in addition to older members moving on to the Senior club. While this year hasn't finished yet, with a few more meetings, and competitions to take part in, I hope that all of the Wymondham Countrysiders members are proud of what they have achieved this year, and hope that the club continues to grow over the years to come.





# NORTH ELMHAM COUNTRYSIDERS

North Elmham Countrysiders have had an exciting and successful start to the year, with a strong team of 24 enthusiastic young members.

Meeting every other Monday during term time at North Elmham Memorial Hall (7:00 – 8:30 PM), the group has already enjoyed a fantastic range of activities, from friendly competitions and team-building exercises to crabbing, pancake making, quizzes, and engaging guest talks.

We have supported our senior Young Farmer Club by attending their tractor run and raised funds for our club by holding a cake stall at the run and having a tree at Fakenham Christmas Tree festival raising funds for Charity alongside our club.



As the lighter evenings approach, even more outdoor adventures are on the horizon. Members can look forward to orienteering in Holt Country Park, a fascinating trip to The Goat Shed, and an insightful visit to the Veteran Centre at West Raynham. These experiences will not only be fun but also educational, helping the young Countrysiders build confidence, teamwork, and practical skills.

The group provides a welcoming environment for young people to develop new interests, make friends, and take part in hands-on activities that connect them with nature, the countryside, and their local community. With such a strong start to the year, the rest of 2024 - 2025 promises to be just as exciting for North Elmham Countrysiders! If you're interested in joining or learning more, get in touch—we'd love to welcome new members to be part of the adventure.



# DEREHAM COUNTRYSIDERS

Dereham Countrysiders re-opened this September at Garvestone Village Hall, meeting fortnightly on Mondays and has roughly 13-15 members attend.

We have had in-meetings from Forestry Talk with TB Wood Services and CTC Tree Care, Lowland Search and Rescue, and our Christmas party with a special visitor , The Grinch.

Our meetings have included sausage making with Tony Perkins, Ben Burgess tour and talk joint with Downham Market and we are looking forward to our Summer BBQ.

All the members have thrown themselves into County Competitions showing their baking, building and Stockjudging skills. Placing in most competitions, an excellent achievement after only being going 8 months.

It's fantastic to see the new generation of Young Farmers coming through and so passionate about farming and the countryside. We are all looking forward to the Rally and seeing what we can achieve in our first year.





## DOWNHAM MARKET COUNTRYSIDERS

Downham Market Countrysiders returned this September and has been a hit.

With over 20 young members coming along each week and getting involved in all meetings, Downham Market have become a strong Countrysiders club.

Since September our Countrysiders has taken part in all competitions and has won the Junior Tug of War meaning we are off to Eastern Area representing Norfolk!

We have had some great meetings including Ben Burgess joint with Seniors, hunting hound kennels tours and guest speakers.

We look forward to competing at the Rally and hopefully coming first in even more events!




# HOLT COUNTRYSIDERS

Holt Countrysiders has had a fabulous first year!

The club started on 1st May 2024 and as it reaches its first birthday we have around 30 signed up, active members! It has been a learning curve for everyone (parents are starting to realise that things like entering a vegetable throwing competition are a whole-family support effort in terms of training!) and overall the club is going from strength to strength.

We have been successful in a number of competitions, picking up first in public speaking and reading at the Winter Competitions Day, not to mention also claiming the crown for best decorated gingerbread house! Farm Event saw us pulling our first Tug of War rope, and we will soon see some of our members competing in their first Stockjudging competitions.

Our meetings have ranged from talks on the impact of tornadoes on agriculture in the USA, to farm walks and machinery factories.

We have chosen a logo for our club, basing it on the Holt owl, which is a feature of the town. This has been featured on our navy and pink kit, which can now be seen out and about on polo tops and hoodies!

This next year we are planning to enter as many competitions as we can, giving every member the opportunity to enjoy the easy-going but competitive spirit of a Young Farmers competition. We would like to raise some money for charity, and will also continue to learn about the countryside and conservation, and in particular the importance of supporting British Farming. But most importantly, we are aiming to have fun, make new friends and learn skills for life!





*Key*

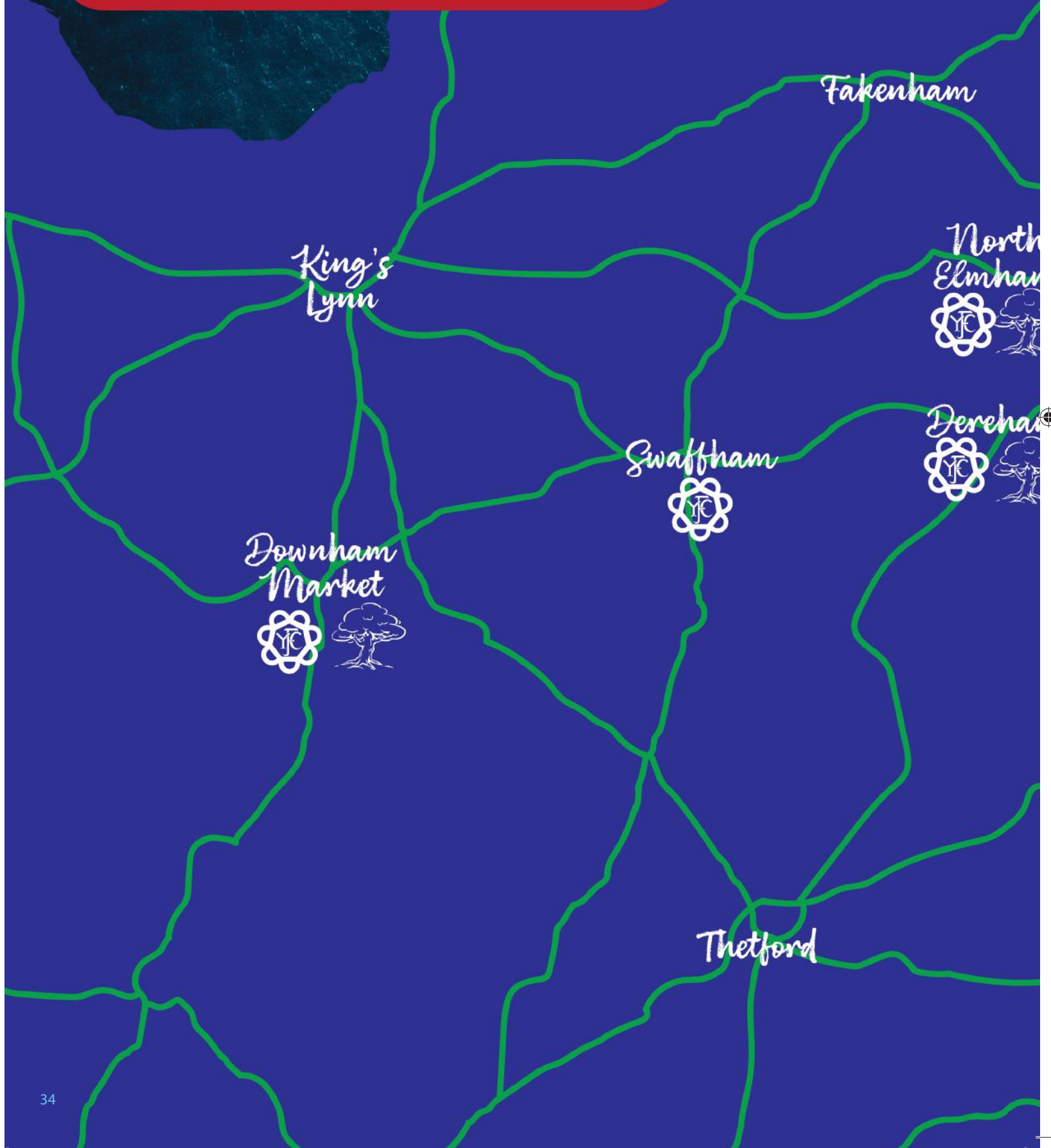


**YFC 16 - 28 years**



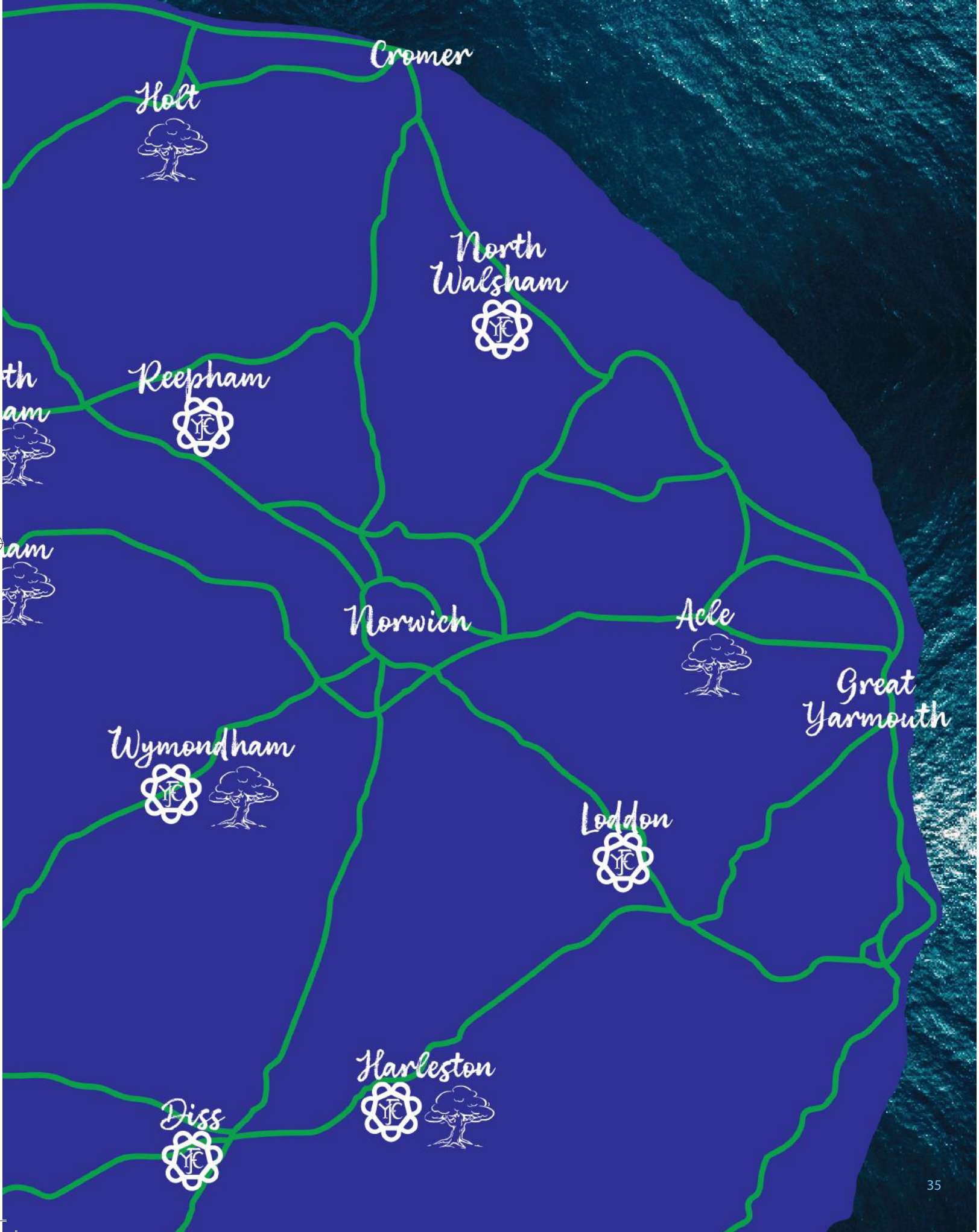
**Countrysiders 10 - 16 years**

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01603 882 220

info@mphgroup.co.uk