



THE ANNUAL REPORT 2025

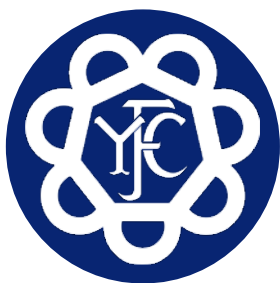
1st September 2024 - 31st August 2025

The Norfolk Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs & Countrysiders





WELCOME



This report lays out the Federation's aims and activities from the 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025, in what was our 81st year. The report clearly reflects the positive impact of the Federation, clubs and members of Norfolk YFC and the strong foundations from which the organisation will continue to grow in the future.

Ches Broom, President

Alice Saunders & Poppy Bunting, County Chairs

Annual Report & Annual General Meeting
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SECTION 01

NORFOLK FEDERATION OF YFC



YFC in Norfolk has been going strong since 1938, when Harleston YFC was founded. By the end of 1944, Norfolk had 12 clubs & the Norfolk Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs was born. The first County Organiser was appointed in May 1948.

ONCE A YOUNG FARMER ALWAYS A YOUNG FARMER

About the Federation

The Norfolk Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs & Countrysiders is the County Federation affiliated to the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (NFYFC) and is collectively one of the largest voluntary rural youth organisations in the United Kingdom.

There are over 575 YFC Clubs in England & Wales covering in excess of 23,000 members along with thousands of volunteers to run the varied programme of activities, which are designed to support rural young people, promote learning & skills acquisition in a fun, social setting.



Our Objectives

The Federation's objectives are to advance the education of young members of the public at large in agriculture, home craft, country life & related subjects. In the interests of the social welfare to provide & promote the provision of facilities for recreational & other leisure time occupations which will improve their conditions of life, assisting in the development of their spiritual & mental capacities, self reliance & individual responsibility so that they may grow to full maturity as individuals & members of the community.

**17
Clubs**

10 YFC's
(16-28 years)
and
7 Countrysiders
(10-16 years)
supported

480+

Members
taking part in
activities from
competitions
to social events

£35,000

Over £35,000
raised across the
County for Clubs
& Charities

170+

Competitions
competed in
throughout the
year



County Officers

President



Mrs C Broom

Vice-President



Mr R Hirst

Chair



Miss A Saunders

Chair



Miss P Bunting

Vice Chair, Friends Liaison & 100 Club



Mr E Stimson

Honorary Treasurer & Rally Chair



Mr B Johnson

CAT Chair



Mr L Pratt & Mr N Payne

Hockey Secretary



Miss E Bentley

Training Chair



Miss R Stanford

SAM Chair



Mr T Fraser

Show & Marketing Chair



Miss M Hawes

Press Officer



Miss A Neale

Senior Member of the Year



Miss M Hawes

Junior Member of the Year



Miss E Rowling

Countryside of the Year



E Tarry

Bar Co-Ordinator

Mr A Ford

Marquee Co-ordinator

Mr T Bryant



Honorary Life Vice-Presidents

Mr M Gamble, Mr W R Kidner, Mr D Richardson (deceased 2025), Mr R Tuck, Mr N Dain,
Mr G Gay, Mr J Raker, Mr J Butler, Mr J Papworth, Mr B Turner, Mr C Self, Mrs C Hill,
Mrs C Broom, Mr L Baugh, Mr C Nix, Mr H Scott, Mr K Proctor & Mr T Papworth

Honorary Auditor

Mr G Kerkham, Larking Gowen LLP

Executive Co-Options

Mr H Stanford, Ms F Roberson, Mr J Hancock, Mr H Thomas, Mr A Ford, Mr E Stimson,
Mr W Basey-Fisher, Ms C Jackson

Eastern Area Committee

Mr B Johnson, Miss A Saunders, Miss P Bunting, Mr E Stimson, Mr N Payne, Mr L Pratt,
Mr T Fraser, Miss E Rowling & Ms T Short

NFU Representatives

Miss C Jackson & Mr J Hancock

NFYFC Representatives

Mr B Johnson, Miss A Saunders, Miss P Bunting (Deputy) & Mr E Stimson (Deputy)

Steering Committee

Mrs C Broom, Mr R Hirst, Mr B Johnson, Miss P Bunting, Miss A Saunders,
Mr E Stimson, Mr T Fraser, Mr C Nix & Mr J Cantrill

Acknowledgements

The Federation would like to record its sincere thanks to all those who have helped to make our 81st year 2024 - 2025 a success, whether it be providing facilities, sponsorship or loan of equipment.

We hope that those reading the report can identify themselves in one category or another & in particular we would like to thank:

The President, Mrs C Broom

Larking Gowen LLP

The Vice-President, Mr R Hirst

Marion Barnes

Ben Burgess & Co.

Morley Agricultural Foundation & Mr D Jones

Brown & Co.

MPH Group

Ceres Rural

Newsquest & Mr C Hill

Chadacre Agricultural Trust

Norfolk Farmers Trust

Clan Trust

Norfolk Institute of Agricultural Secretaries

D & F McCarthy

Norfolk National Farmers Union

Greens Charitable Trust

Philip & Elizabeth Rackham Charitable Trust

Howes Percival

Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association

and many other individuals & supporters throughout the year

Membership

Membership as at 31st August 2025. The Following chart shows how the clubs fared against their target membership. Many congratulations must go to all open clubs who managed to register more than their target membership. This years target has been set as 483, hopefully with hard work & dedication from all the clubs this coming year, we will reach the mark.

Club	Target Membership	Registered	Achieved
Dereham	65	32	49%
Dereham Countrysiders	20	12	60%
Diss	31	28	90%
Downham Market	40	47	118%
Downham Market Countrysiders	20	25	125%
Harleston	40	31	85%
Harleston Countrysiders	20	21	105%
Holt Countrysiders	20	29	145%
Loddon	40	26	65%
North Elmham	20	33	165%
North Elmham Countrysiders	20	27	135%
North Walsham	50	22	44%
Reepham	25	21	84%
Swaffham	40	31	78%
Wymondham	60	57	95%
Wymondham Countrysiders	20	25	125%

Countrysiders Rally Trophies

Stage Winner - awarded to the club gaining the most points in the Stage Classes.

First: Harleston & Wymondham Countrysiders

First: North Elmham Countrysiders

First: Holt Countrysiders

Agricultural Winner - awarded to the club gaining the most points in the Agricultural Classes.

Second: North Elmham Countrysiders

Second: Downham Market Countrysiders

First: Wymondham Countrysiders

Countrysiders Sports Trophy - awarded to the club gaining the most points in the Ring Events.

Third: Harleston Countrysiders

Second: Wymondham Countrysiders

First: Holt Countrysiders

Butler Trophy - awarded to the club gaining the most points in all classes in proportion to the membership.

Third: Harleston Countrysiders

Second: Holt Countrysiders

First: Wymondham Countrysiders

Club of the Year Shield - awarded to

Third: Harleston Countrysiders

Second: North Elmham Countrysiders

First: Holt Countrysiders

Done on the Day - awarded to the club gaining the most points in the Done on the Day Classes.

Third: Wymondham Countrysiders

Second: North Elmham Countrysiders

First: Holt Countrysiders

Exhibits Winner - awarded to the club gaining the most points in the Exhibits Classes.

Third: Harleston & Wymondham Countrysiders

Second: Holt Countrysiders

First: North Elmham Countrysiders

Bidwells Challenge Trophy - awarded to the club gaining the most points in all competitions throughout the year.

Third: Wymondham Countrysiders

Second: Downham Market & North Elmham Countrysiders

First: Holt Countrysiders

Rod Tuck Countrysiders Cup - awarded to the club gaining the most points at the Rally.

Third: Wymondham Countrysiders

Second: North Elmham Countrysiders

First: Holt Countrysiders

We Were There in Spirit - awarded to Dereham Countrysiders.



YFC Rally Trophies

Sue Huggins Hockey League Shield - awarded to the club gaining the most points in the League.

Third: Wymondham YFC

Second: North Elmham YFC

First: Diss YFC

The John Wright Trophy for Dairy Cattle Judging - awarded to the member gaining the most points in Dairy Cattle Judging at Pre Rally.

Third: Mel Hawes, Wymondham YFC

Second: Will Potter, Wymondham YFC

First: David Long, Wymondham YFC

Call-Brook Trophy for Beef Stockjudging - awarded to the member gaining most points in the Farm Event Beef Stockjudging

Third: Jacob Lascelles, Wymondham YFC

Second: Amy Russell, Dereham YFC

First: David Long, Wymondham YFC

Kidner Stockjudging Shield - awarded to the club gaining the most points in Stockjudging over the year.

Third: Dereham YFC

Second: Loddon YFC

First: Wymondham YFC

Shell Chemicals - awarded to the club gaining the most points in Weed Identification.

Third: Harleston YFC

Second: Wymondham YFC

First: Diss YFC

Norwich & Norfolk Federation of YFC

Stockjudging Trophy for Sheep - awarded to the member gaining the most points in sheep judging at Farm Event.

Third: Lucas Wilson, Loddon YFC

Second: Charlotte Jackson, YFC

First: David Long, Wymondham YFC

Shell Machinery Trophy - awarded to the club gaining the most points in Male & Female Tractor Driving, 4x4 Handling, Chainsaw Maintenance, Mechanical Fault Finding & Off Roothing.

Third: North Elmham YFC & Wymondham YFC

First: Dereham YFC & Diss YFC

Exhibits Cup - awarded to the club gaining the most points in the Exhibit Classes.

Third: Dereham YFC

Second: Diss YFC

First: Wymondham YFC

Rosalyn Clamp Memorial Trophy - awarded to the individual gaining the most points in Needle Craft or Fashion.

Third: Annie Wilkinson, Loddon YFC

Second: Ella-Mae Cook, North Elmham YFC

First: Caitlyn Ricketts, Wymondham YFC

Donald Produce Trophy - awarded to the Club gaining the most points in the display of garden produce.

Third: Wymondham YFC

Second: Dereham YFC

First: Downham Market YFC

Mosley Sports Challenge Cup - awarded to the club gaining the most points in the Sport Classes.

Third: Swaffham YFC

Second: Wymondham YFC

First: Dereham YFC

Hudson Trophy - awarded to the club gaining the most points in all classes in proportion to the number of members.

Third: Wymondham YFC

Second: Dereham YFC

First: Diss YFC

We Were There 'Spirit' Trophy - awarded to Downham Market YFC & North Walsham YFC

Herbert Dennick Trophy - awarded to the club gaining the most points in the Done on the Day Classes.

Third: Diss YFC

Second: Dereham YFC

First: Wymondham YFC

Watton Tug of War Trophy - awarded to the club gaining the most points in the Men's Tug of War.

Second: Diss YFC

First: Wymondham YFC

Rally Champions Cup

awarded to the club gaining the most points in all classes.

Third: Dereham YFC

Second: Diss YFC

First: Wymondham YFC





SECTION 02

REPORTS



In the following pages are the reports detailing our variety of activities completed during the year from the County President to the Sub-Committee Chairs.

President

Ches Broom, County President 2023 - 2025

As the YFC year and my tenure as President come to an end, I reflect not only on the achievements of the last 12 months but also on those of the past 4 years.

We have been fortunate to have a very committed band of members at both county and club level who were determined to see Norfolk YFC not only survive but thrive - and thrive they have.

Anyone attending YFC club meetings or county events in this past year would have felt the positive vibes. My particular highlight in the year being the County Rally, kindly hosted by Robert Alston, Chair of the RNAA. A beautiful setting at Carleton Forehoe and the perfect weather combined to make a normally manic day into one of relaxed fun and hilarious entertainment.

Over the years it has been interesting to map the movement of members through Countrysiders and into the senior clubs, a model that has helped keep Norfolk YFC strong. We note that this year the 2-year loss of Countrysiders (due to Covid) is visible in the numbers, however, this is expected to be a temporary blip as more Countrysider clubs become established. A huge thank you to our dedicated band of Countrysider leaders, we are indebted to you.

I, more than most, understand the importance of a strong and committed staff team, and it was therefore sad to say goodbye to Alison Andrews in December. However, I am pleased to say that the office is now fully staffed with Angela joining us as Countrysider Development Officer and Jen Hartley as County Organiser. Both have embraced their individual roles and are making great progress.

It has been a pleasure to work with the County team and my fellow steering committee members at what was a critical time in the relaunch of the organisation and whilst there is still much to do, I have absolute confidence in a strong future for YFC in Norfolk.

To members: remember you are the lifeblood of YFC, get involved, have your say, support each other and be proud of this great organisation – it is yours.



Chairs

Poppy Bunting & Alice Saunders, County Chairs 2024 - 2025

As we close another successful year, it's a great time to reflect on the achievements of Norfolk Young Farmers and celebrate our members' hard work and enthusiasm.

Throughout this year our members have taken part in a wide range of competitions such as public speaking and carol singing at the Winter Competitions Day, team sports at our annual Sport Day, rural and agricultural based competitions at our annual Farm Event and a wide range of competitions at the Rally in July. A particular highlight this year was the introduction of the stock judging competition day which saw fantastic participation with many members competing for the first time.

Our competition days would not be possible without our judges, stewards, hosts and volunteers. Thank you to Easton College, Langley Prep School, Morley Farms, Dereham Hockey Club, Diss Rugby Club, Newmarket Football Club and a huge thank you to the Proctor family for hosting our Stockjudging Day and the Alston Family for hosting our Rally. The biggest thank you goes to our CAT chairs Luke Pratt and Nathan Payne, the success of these events is testament to their hard work and enthusiasm this year.

This year our members have enjoyed a busy social calendar. Most recently, our James Bond-themed County Dinner Dance, a brilliant evening enjoyed by all those who attended. The Rally social was a highlight of this year's social calendar; it was brilliant to see members celebrate the past year's achievements. A huge thank you to SAM chair, Tom Fraser for his hard work and efforts this past year. We encourage all members to support club and county social events this coming year. Social events are vital to raise funds, but also a fantastic opportunity to build new friendships across the county.

This year's Royal Norfolk Show once again allowed us to showcase all that Norfolk YFC has to offer. The show featured our club exhibits, this year with the theme of Norfolk Food and Drink and members were tasked with using recycled materials to create their exhibits. The biggest congratulations goes to Mel Hawes, our Marketing and Show Chair, for winning the Bond Challenge Cup. This is a huge achievement that reflects your hard work and creativity.

We would also like to extend a huge thank you to all our committee members working tirelessly behind the scenes, including our training chair, treasurer, hockey chair, travel rep, Friends and 100 club liaison officer, press officer, bar and marquee coordinators. A huge thank you goes to our Vice Chair Ed Stimson, thank you for all the effort and time you gave to the county over the year. We appreciate everyone's efforts and thank you for all of the time and dedication you give to your roles.

The progress of our Countrysider clubs has been fantastic this year. Our newest addition, Acle Countrysiders, means we now have 7 clubs across Norfolk. Countrysiders play a vital role in securing the future of our membership and it's been amazing to watch new clubs open with demand growing for future clubs. A highlight this year was the return of the Countrysider Campout, kindly hosted by Honningham Thorpe Farms. This saw 40 Countrysiders members come together for a weekend of conservation activities, games and camping! The success of our Countrysiders wouldn't be possible without the support of our amazing leaders. We are incredibly grateful to

our Countryside leaders for their commitment and dedication.

Thank you to the Chadacre Agricultural Trust, Clan Trust, Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association, Norfolk Farmers Trust, Greens Charitable Trust and Ben Burgess & Co along with all sponsors and supporters of Norfolk YFC, for their continued generosity to our organisation.

Our County Office team is at the heart of Norfolk Young Farmers and works tirelessly behind the scenes to deliver for our organisation. This year, we welcomed Angela Holloway as Countryside Development Officer and Jen Hartley as County Organiser, joining Kate and Lucy in our fantastic office team. We thank the team for their continued hard work and enthusiasm they bring every day.

We would also like to extend our thanks to our County President Ches Broom, Vice President Richard Hirst, and the Steering Committee for their support and guidance. It's been fantastic to work with you all this past year. A special thank you also goes to Ben Johnson. Ben has stood as Honorary Treasurer and Rally Chair this year, but he has continued to play a huge role in Norfolk Young Farmers. Ben works tirelessly to support Norfolk Young Farmers and never asks for praise or recognition. He is a huge asset to Norfolk YFC and we are deeply grateful for everything he has done the past few years. We wish him every success in his role as Eastern Area Chairman going forward.

Finally, our biggest thank you goes to each and every member of Norfolk Young Farmers. This fantastic organisation would be nothing without its members, and we have been impressed by the enthusiasm and dedication of our members this year. It's been our privilege to stand as your County Chairs, and we wish the incoming committee every success for the year ahead.



Competitions & Training

Nathan Payne & Luke Pratt, Competitions & Training Chairs 2024 - 2025

First of all we would like to thank everyone that has supported and helped us through the year with organising and helping the competition days run smoothly. Without all of you we wouldn't have been able to have the great competition days that we have had. It's been great to see members participate, represent their clubs and be supported by their families.

We kicked off the year with our winter competitions day, kindly hosted by Easton College who we would like to thank for allowing us to return. Questionable dance moves and dodgy carol singing made the day hilarious. It was great to see new clubs and members get involved in the competitions and show us what their club is made of! During our winter months we had our hockey league. Huge thanks to Emma Bentley for organising these games and to Sue Huggins for taking the time to umpire. Thank you to those members who helped and supported their clubs.

Our Sports Day was kindly hosted by Langley Prep, we would like to thank them for providing their excellent facilities. This very successful day led to two of our clubs going on to represent Norfolk at Eastern Area for 5-a-side football and netball. Well done to those members who took part and did so well representing Norfolk.

After this was our inter-county annual Norfolk vs Suffolk rugby game, kindly hosted by Diss Rugby Club. As usual, Norfolk brought the trophy home! It was great to see so many members taking part and coming to support the county. Unfortunately we didn't win the football against Essex later in the year, although would like to thank Newmarket football club for hosting us and for all the members that played or supported.

Thanks to North Elmham for hosting our ploughing match, kindly hosted by Norfolk Farm Produce at Beeston. It was great to see so many different tractors and vintage ploughs. Well done to everyone who participated and to those that placed. Our annual farm event was kindly hosted by David Jones at Morley Farms, thanks for helping organise and judge. It was great to see some fresh faces heading off to Eastern Area for tug of war, the fence erecting and stock judging. The junior tug of war was back with one of the clubs representing Norfolk at Eastern Area too! A big thank you to the TOW judges and everyone else who helped the day run smoothly. We had a great turn out from both our junior and seniors clubs taking part in all the competitions which was great to see.

We finished off a great competitions year with a new event, the Stock judging day, kindly hosted by the Proctors. It was amazing to see a lot of new members, both seniors and juniors, taking part and placing on their first try.

A big thank you to Ben for his great job on organising and running the rally which was hosted at Robert Alston's. With a lot of last minute alterations Ben did an amazing job, along with everyone who came along to support and help. It was great seeing members take part in all the competitions and some members representing Norfolk at Nationals for Floral Art. Finally we would like to say a massive thank you to the office staff for taking time out of their lives to help support us at the competitions days and making sure we didn't forget anything. A big thank you to Lucy for keeping us on track and putting up with all the phone calls and texts to get the days organised. We would also like to thank Abby for sitting in the pub with us writing our competition ideas out, created over a pint or two. We wish next years CAT committee all the best of luck.

Over and out 10 4 rubber duck.

Rally

Ben Johnson, Rally Chairman 2024 - 2025

This year's Rally took a slightly different format, taking place on Saturday 12th July at Church Farm, Carleton Forehoe, by kind permission of Robert Alston. And what a day it was, we couldn't have asked for better weather! The event was packed with fresh experiences, including our first-ever Pimm's & Prosecco Evening Reception, open to all members, judges, stewards, Friends of YFC, sponsors and supporters. It was the perfect way to round off the year, celebrate our successes, and enjoy time together. The Rally results for YFC were announced during the Reception, followed by the traditional Rally Social.

This year saw the return of several much-loved competitions alongside some exciting new ones. Although the overall number of competitions was scaled back to 95 competitions, the day still had the trademark buzz and competitive spirit.

One highlight was the introduction of a LEGO® competition for our Countrysiders, based on the LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® programme. This activity aimed to build members' confidence in public speaking and topic explanation. Working in teams, participants created a scene representing "What Countrysiders means to us." The aim was to promote the benefits of Countrysiders Clubs and to showcase the potential for making this model of membership a national initiative.

The Stage Classes once again delivered plenty of entertainment with our version of Stars in Their Eyes proving a particular hit. The Sports Classes were hotly contested and the return of Henry Stanford's enlarged straw bale pool was a definite crowd favourite, especially in the heat of the day.

After the results were tallied, Holt Countrysiders claimed the Rod Tuck Countrysiders Cup with 118 points, while Wymondham YFC lifted the Rally Championship Cup with 252 points. A full list of trophy winners can be found on page 9.

The Rally is the product of months of planning, weeks of preparation and long days of set-up and clear-down. It simply could not happen without the dedication and teamwork of so many people. Special thanks go to Poppy Bunting, Alice Saunders, Ed Stimson, Andrew Ford, Max Monk, the fantastic office team of Angela, Jen, Kate, and Lucy and all members who gave up their evenings to get everything ready. We are also hugely grateful to our sponsors and supporters, including Icen Metal Detecting Tours for sponsoring the day, MPH Group for transport of equipment from and to the Showground, and Ben Burgess & Co., TNS, ETS, Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association, Food & Farming Discovery Trust, along with many individuals who generously loaned equipment and resources.

Thank you also to all judges, stewards and volunteers for giving up your time and sharing your expertise, the day simply could not run without you. And, of course, to our members (and their parents and guardians) for competing and supporting the Rally. Remember, competition days are your days, so if there is something you would like to see, speak to your Competition Secretary.

Finally, I wish Poppy and Alice, our 2026 Rally Chairs, the very best of luck. You'll both do a fantastic job but remember, planning starts now!

Socials & Marketing

Tom Fraser, Socials & Marketing Chairman 2024 -2025

The year started off a bit slow, with a bit of a failed Christmas social (slightly to do with the dates mixing up). However the Valentine Social was much better attended! We think this was down to the location and that we spread the word across to neighbouring counties. It was wonderful to see people from Suffolk and a few from Cambridge too, all come to enjoy a night of dancing and being typical Young Farmers.

After the loss made on the first social of the year and a very small profit on the second, my prediction for the rally social wasn't great. Given the early harvest and lack of interest at previous social I was surprised when I arrived at the social to find The Rally Social was a huge success! People dancing, talking and getting together to have a good time, with lots of the older members, judges and county staff getting stuck in too! The feedback was great and we have decided to once again hold the Rally Social on the evening of the Rally for 2026.

In September we held our County Dinner Dance at Carrow Road. It was 007 themed and to help promote it, yours truly had to take on the role of a Bond Villian for the social media promotion films. It was very out of my comfort zone filming this but the outcome was great, we had a sell-out event of 250 people who all danced the night away at The Top of the Terrace. A huge thanks to all those who helped pull the evening together, we absolutely couldn't have achieved it without you. A round of heads and tails led to a nice profit from the evening, something to consider going forward.

After a bit of a delay in getting socials going at the start of the year it was nice to end on a high, let's hope it's a sign of things to come. Best of luck Hannah Howell who takes over the S.A.M role next year, I know she'll do an amazing job!



Shows

Melanie Hawes, Show Chair 2024 - 2025

We had another very successful show season this year thanks to all the hard work and effort shown by all our clubs.

The theme for this year's Royal Norfolk Show was Norfolk Food and Drink. On the menu for our senior clubs, was a recycled material sculpture inspired by a Norfolk delicacy and our Countrysiders were tasked with creating a bear out of recycled materials. All clubs who took part really brought their all their creativity and showcased all that they have to offer. Thanks to all of their hard work on and off the stand, we were awarded the Bond Challenge Cup for best charity trade stand with judges commenting that the stand was colourful and welcoming. Thank you to Ceres Rural for sponsoring our show stand this year as well as Jason Cantrill for judging all the club exhibits.

Thank you to McCarthy's for providing the fruit for our Pimm's reception on Wednesday afternoon. A special mention must go to Edgefield Nurseries who provided all of our trees and shrubs which really made the stand look fantastic as well as Morrisons at Diss for their flower donations used for the inside displays.

A sunny August bank holiday saw us at the Aylsham show; it's starting to become a running theme at this show that we don't always get the marquee quite right- there's always next year! This year's theme was potatoes, so alongside some club exhibits we created potato cress heads with some very eager children who were very excited to get hands on, and we all survived with limbs intact after some very questionable knife skills from some of our members!

It has been an absolute pleasure to be show chair for the last two years, I enjoy nothing more than getting to show people how fantastic Norfolk YFC is. Good luck to this year's chair, Rosie Stanford, I can't wait to see what you get up to!



County Office

Jen Hartley, County Organiser

It doesn't feel right to be completing the County Office report after only joining the organisation in July, however I would really like to take the opportunity to send my thanks to everyone who has been so welcoming since I joined. Special thanks to the office team Angela, Kate & Lucy and the Exec team. So far, I would describe the role of County Organiser as 'organised chaos' but in the best way, everyone is so full of passion and enthusiasm it is infectious.

It was only right that I sought feedback from the rest of the County Office team on how they felt the 2024-2025 year went. Angela's highlight was launching the new Acle Countrysiders, who will be officially adopted into the YFC Constitution at our AGM. Acle, our newest group already has the most signed up members and has hit the ground running. The Countrysider Campout was a huge success, with around 40 Countrysiders joining us for a night at Honingham Thorpe Farm, the children enjoyed it so much they asked that next year we host it for four days! We have compromised on two, and are already planning for a great event.

Hosting the Rally away from the Showground posed a few organisational headaches, especially for Lucy and Ben. However we were struck by how many people pitched in to make it a really successful day. A huge thank you to everyone who gave up their time, and even bigger thank you to Robert Alston who very kindly allowed us to host it on his farm. I was so proud of our members who not only had a great day, but ensured everything was tidied up and left as it was found. Farm Manager Rob Copeland said we'd be welcomed back any time - but we won't hold him to that!

Huge thanks to Poppy, Alice and Ben, the unsung, honorary 'office staff' who worked tirelessly supporting our team especially when we were without a County Organiser, and throughout the rest of the year. You really have had an amazing year and should be very proud with all you have achieved alongside your own careers. Kate's highlight was working with you all, and how the County Office staff and you all pulled together to achieve great things, I don't think there could be a bigger compliment than that.

All of this could not be achieved without our sponsors, without you and your generous contributions the County Office wouldn't be able to work with these amazing volunteers and deliver all we do. Your support demonstrates your commitment to young people and we are truly grateful. Notable thanks must go to the RNAA, Clan Trust, The Chadacre Agricultural Trust, Ben Burgess and Greens Charitable Trust, we would be lost without you.

As the team and I look ahead, we're excited about the future of Norfolk YFC. Plans are already underway for new events, fundraisers and training opportunities that will continue to provide fun, skills and new opportunities to our members. With the continued support of our clubs, volunteers, and sponsors, I am confident that we will build on this year's successes and reach even greater heights.

Our ask to our members is to remember, we work for you, if you would like to try something new or see something change then please get in touch with one of us. We love hearing from you all and we're here to help. This is your organisation and we're really proud to be a part of it.



Eastern Area of YFC

Tom Foulger, Eastern Area Young Farmers' Clubs Chairman 2024 - 2025

Hi Everyone,

I would just like to thank Norfolk for the support the county has given to Eastern Area with taking part in our fundraiser and always bringing strong competition to Eastern Area's Spring and Summer Competitions.

You have a really strong set of members that are keen to support Norfolk as a county. Regularly putting on events internally in your own county, also working with other counties in the area too and working on projects within your own communities.

Spring and Summer comps were a tremendous success a definite step up on the tough benchmark set from the year before and further cementing the network we are still creating in the area. Firstly I would like to thank OBH – Old Buckingham Hall and Suffolk YFC again for the support and assistance in the build up and on the day for spring competitions. Make sure you follow OBH on all the social media platforms. Although I personally couldn't be there summer competitions hosted by Bedfordshire went brilliantly too. I would like to thank again all of the Norfolk entrants for making the competitions so competitive within the area and as always showing Young Farmers off in the best way possible. I am really looking forward to seeing Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire host comps next year completing what we set out at the start to spread the competitions out through the area.

I would also like to thank Robbie, Harry, Joe and Dan from North Elmham YFC for helping the Chairmans Banger Challenge raise £9500 for Charity which is an outstanding achievement! Sophie, Ben, Fiz and I hope to see as many of you as possible at our AGM in Newmarket on the 23rd of November where I sign out on my YFC career but highlight the achievements of the Area in this short space of time and this wouldn't have also been possible without Norfolk. We will also be having talks from the charities YANA - You Are Not Alone and the Nature Friendly Farming Network which are the two charities we are raising money for this year.



National Federation of YFC

John Lee OBE DL, National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs President 2024 - 2025

From my first days as a member of Newton St Cyres YFC to now serving as NFYFC's President, being part of this organisation has truly made a difference in my life.

There's something very special about being part of the YFC family - it gives you an instant network of contacts across the country, and in my case, the world, simply by being a member.



You very rarely need to ask twice for help; someone will always have your back. I have personally been grateful for the support I have received over the years.

The spirit of that support extends far beyond YFC itself, reaching into our rural communities and the wider agricultural industry - making a difference on an even greater scale.

Recently, we shared the social value of Young Farmers' Clubs. Your activities generate £4.51 in social good for every £1 NFYFC invests - adding up to over £10 million in value for people and communities.

Club and county officers should feel incredibly proud of that achievement. It highlights how, as volunteers, you are creating safe, supportive environments for young people while also benefitting the communities you serve.

The many acts of kindness delivered by YFCs make a real difference - not only for those receiving support, but also for those giving it. Volunteering is a powerful source for good, offering meaningful rewards to everyone involved.

As NFYFC begins its journey towards its centenary in 2032, I encourage you to start recording your acts of kindness so we can showcase the impact YFCs make when we celebrate 100 years. We already know how much we do to support others - now it's time to shout a little louder about the difference we make.

Congratulations on everything you have achieved over the past membership year. Let's continue to aim high as we move towards our centenary. We have so much to celebrate - and so much more we can do to demonstrate the positive impact of our organisation.

SECTION 03

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The following pages are to provide information on the 81st Annual General Meeting held at St Walstan Hall, Norfolk Showground on Thursday 13th November 2025.

Agenda

May I draw your attention to the fact that the following people are invited to vote:

- A. Members of the Executive Committee
- B. Three representatives of each open club

Other interested members are entitled to attend and speak, with the permission of the Chairman, but they MAY NOT VOTE.

Items for Any Other Business must be notified to the Chairman before the start of the meeting.

Yours faithfully

Ches Broom

County President

1. Welcome by Mrs. C Broom, County President
2. To receive apologies for absence
3. To approve the minutes of the 80th Annual General Meeting
4. Guest Speaker: Dr Belinda Clarke OBE, Director of Agri-TechE
5. Vote of thanks: Alice Saunders
6. Annual Report
To be presented by Alice Saunders & Poppy Bunting, Norfolk Federation of YFC Co-Chairs 2024/2025
Motion: That the Annual Report for 2024/2025 be received and adopted.
Proposer: Poppy Bunting
Secunder: Alice Saunders
7. Statement of Accounts
Motion: That the Statement of Accounts to 31st August 2025 be received and adopted.
Proposer: Ben Johnson
Secunder: Tim Charles
8. Re-Election of Auditor & Thank You
Motion: That Larking Gowen and in particular Mr Giles Kerkham & Ms Clair Walsh, be thanked for their services as our Auditor for the year 2024/2025 and be asked to continue for the next year.
Proposer: Tim Charles
Secunder: Harry Fairhead

9. Thanks to County President
 Motion: That Ches Broom be thanked for her term as President.
 Proposer: Poppy Bunting
 Seconder: Rosie Stanford
10. Thanks for term as Vice President and election of County-President
 Motion: That Richard Hirst is thanked for his term as Vice President and elected as President for the year 2025/2026.
 Proposer: Melanie Hawes
 Seconder: Harry Ellen
11. Election of Vice-President
 Motion: That Andrew Denny is elected as Vice-President for the year 2025/2026
 Proposer: Lewis Pepperell
 Seconder: Hannah Howell
12. Motion: That Chadacre Agricultural Trust, Clan Trust, RNAA, Greens Charitable Trust, Ben Burgess and many individuals, companies and organisations who have assisted the Federation during the year 2024/2025 be thanked for their support
 Proposer: Ed Rowling
 Seconder: Harry Ellen
13. Motion: That the Newsquest Group and especially Chris Hill be thanked for their support for the year 2024/2025.
 Proposer: Melanie Hawes
 Seconder: Jade Applegate
14. Motion: To ratify the decision of the Executive Committee to set the levy for 2025/2026 at Associate £80.00, Senior £75.00, Intermediate £75.00 and Junior £55.00.
 Proposer: Max Monk
 Seconder: Henry Albutt
15. Presentation of Awards: hosted by Nathan Payne & Luke Pratt – CAT Co-Chairs 2024/2025
- Presented By: Chair's Miss. Poppy Bunting & Miss. Alice Saunders
 Chairman's Gavel – awarded by the County Co-Chairs to the incoming Chairman Tom Fraser
 The Chairman's Cup - for outstanding club achievement
- Presented by: President Mrs. Ches Broom
 NFU Mutual Trophy – awarded to the club with the most points based on all the competitions during the year
 Norfolk Daniels Charity Cup – awarded to the club who has raised the most charity money
 Club Programme Winner - £200 awarded to the club with the best winter programme
 C.I.P. Roberts Memorial Rose Bowl – highest individual scorer in Clubs Exhibit Section at The Rally

16. Presented by: Sponsors Brown & Co.
The Club Growth Cup – awarded to the club with the highest percentage growth
Presidents Perpetual Trophy – awarded to the club gaining the most points in all public speaking competitions
The County Stockjudging Trophy – awarded to the most promising new member in county stockjudging
Presented by: Chair's Miss. Poppy Bunting & Miss. Alice Saunders
Certificates of Achievement – including certificates from the National Federation of Young Farmer's Clubs
17. Welcome to the 2025/2026 Officers: Incoming Vice-Chairman Miss Melanie Hawes
18. Any Other Business (previously notified)
100 Club draw x2
19. Date of next meeting – 12th November 2026
20. Close of Meeting



80th Annual General Meeting Minutes

**Annual General Meeting held at
St Walstan Hall, Norfolk Showground, Dereham Road, Norwich, NR5 0TT
on Thursday 14th November 2024 at 19:45**

Present:

Benjamin Johnson	Joe Large	Joan Reeve	Jack Hammond
Alice Saunders	Harry Ellen	Tim Austin	Ed Saunders
Poppy Bunting	Matthew Abram	Lucy Stowell	Timothy Charles
Lucy Long	Tim Papworth	Frances Roberson	Thomas Fraser
Alison Andrews	Angela Holloway	Moira Harrison	Emma Bentley
Kate Bowler	Clare Rowling	Jason Cantrill	Bonnie Hilldrup
Ches Broom	James Tarry	Andrew Ford	Max Monk
Andrew Spinks	Jane Knights	Nick Johnson	Rosie Stanford
Cristobel Uauv	Edward Tarry	Eirylys Johnson	Tori Short
Andy Broom	James Bostock	Luke Pratt	Sarah Boon
Henry Stanford	Sam Payne	Nathan Payne	Thomas Bryant
Ann Self	Hannah Howell	Wendy Cottrell	Matthew Ayling
Christopher Self	Chris Hill	Ella Cottrell	Danny Bunting
Angela Phillips	Rebecca Brooks	Kirsty Prior	Charles Moss
Richard Philips	Helen Reeve	Edward Stimson	Jill Roberson
Stephen Roberson	Ben Turner	Charlotte Jackson	William Hall
Louis Blough	Michael Gamble	Edward Rowling	George Gay
Fran Blough	Mel Hawes	Ben Robertson	Christine Hill
David Hill	Harry Suckling	Fiona Marshall	Julia Nix
Chris Nix	Henry Albutt	Abby Neale	

Apologies:

Harry Thomas	Amy Russell	Jason Gould	John Carrick
Jessica Rose	Mr & Mrs Stangroom	Essex YFC	Mr & Mrs Barnard
James Eckley	Mr & Mrs Roy Goodwin	Holt Countrysiders	Mrs Jill Burton
Anna Claxton	James Hancock	Richard Hastings	Drew Baiiey
Tom Foulger	Marcus Bailey	Emily Rowling	Will De Feyter
Robbie Bell	Richard Hirst	David Jones	

1. Welcome by Mrs Ches Broom, County President

CB welcomes all to meeting. Welcomes Angela new Countrysider development officer. Countrysiders is doing well with 6 clubs open across the county. More to open in the following years. Thanks, Moria Harrison, for all her help over the years with Countrysiders, left during covid and never got a chance to say a proper thank you for all her time and effort.

2. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies noted as above.

3. To approve the minutes of the 79th Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting have been circulated and signed as true and accurate record, no matters arising.

Proposer: Alice Saunders

Seconder: Harry Ellen

4. Annual Report

BJ reflects on the year with 80th Annual report. Talks about the successes of the federation throughout the year, including the Harvest festival with the RNAA, the annual County Dinner Dance with over 300 members attending. The National YFC achievers' awards in November 2023 where Diss member Jago Downes won the new member category. The recent 2024 achievers' awards where Norfolk were nominated in 3 categories. New member Abby Neale, club of the year Downham Market and Heart of YFC David Long. He also reflects on the fantastic achievement made by members within competitions at Eastern Area and National. Congratulates Jack Hammond on winning Situations vacant at National. Norfolk YFC hosted the summer competitions day for eastern Area. Thanks, Proctors, for hosting and David and Lucy Long for helping with organising and other members for helping on the day. Thanks, Tom Webster, for organising another great Norfolk vs Suffolk rugby game with Norfolk retaining the cup. Thanks to Nathan Payne for organising football against Essex. Big thank you to all venues for hosting out events throughout the year, Ben Burgess for use of machinery equipment, judges and stewards and Matt Abram as CAT chairman. Thanks Edward Stimson as SAM chair for 3 socials which were all well attended. Oak Ball 1,500 members raised £54,000 to the skills initiative funds. Big thank you to the Ball committee and helpers for such a successful event. Norfolk show saw club exhibit 80 years celebrating D-Day and grand ring display of 80 years of farming. Massive thanks to all who provide machinery and for the members. Talks about 3 new Countrysiders clubs opening Holt, Downham Market and Dereham. Welcomes new staff member Angela. Thanks, Henry, for a great Rally and Showground for hosting. Privilege to be your County Chairman and wish Alice and Poppy luck. Thanks, steering committee, office and the members.

Motion: That the Annual Report for 2023 / 2024 be received and adopted

Proposer: Benjamin Johnson

Seconder: Alice Saunders

5. Statement of Accounts

AS present the accounts to the room for year ending 31st August 2024. Continue to support 14 clubs with 491 members. Account shows income generated from ball and additional funds from legacy Leona Levine. Discuss about staff costs. AS discusses grants from supporters without which we could not operate. Have made investments in a new marquee and bar trailer. Skills initiative funds in surplus thanks to money raised at the Oak Ball.

Motion: That the Statement of Accounts to 31st August 2024 be received and adopted.

Proposer: Alice Saunders

Seconder: Poppy Bunting

6. Re-Election of Auditor & Thank You

AS thanks for continued support especially this year with the Oak Ball. Benjamin seconds this and notes how the staff have taken back control of accounts with Clare being pivotal in this and look forward to continued support.

Motion: That Larking Gowen and in particular Mr Giles Kerkham & Ms Claire Walsh, be thanked for their services as our Auditor for the year 2023 / 2024 and be asked to continue for the next year.

Proposer: Alice Saunders

Secunder: Benjamin Johnson

7. Thanks to County President

ES thanks Ches for her year with wealth of experience. Ches has been at every competition day and always there on the phone if you need her. Did a fantastic job as Oak Ball chairman and thanks her for everything she does. CB notes it's a real honour and an amazing organisation and proud of all we do.

Motion: That Ches Broom be thanked for her term as President.

Proposer: Edward Stimson

Secunder: Abby Neale

8. Thanks County Vice- President

AF thanks Richard for all his help and support with steering and for attending competitions.

Motion: that Richard Hirst be thanked for his year as Vice-President and re-elected as Vice-President. for the year 2024/2025

Proposer: Andrew Ford

Secunder: Tori Short

9. Election of Honorary Life- Vice-President

Motion: that Tim Papworth is elected as Honorary Life Vice President

DB thanks Tim for his continued support and involvement with YFC has a perfect role model for our members. MM seconds Tim always on the phone if needed and has a wealth of knowledge.

Proposer: Danny Bunting

Secunder: Max Monk

Tim thanks all and great honour to accept role

10. Motion: that Chadacre Agricultural Trust, Clan Trust, Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association, Greens Charitable Trust, Norfolk Farmers Trust and many individuals, companies and organisations who have assisted the Federation during the year 2023/2024 be thanked for their support.

MH thanks all the trusts and other organisations who help support the federation without their support we would be able to continue and enjoy everything we showcase within the organisation.

Proposer: Mel Hawes

Secunder: Rosie Stanford

11. Motion: That Newsquest Newspaper group and especially Chris Hill be thanked for their support for the year 2023/2024.

AN thanks for all the help promoting events throughout the year in the newspaper as much as possible. Look forward to the next year.

Proposer: Abby Neale

Secunder: Hannah Howell

12. Motion: to ratify the decision of the Executive Committee to set the levy for 2024/2025 at Associate £65.00, Senior £65.00, Intermediate £65.00 and Junior £50.00.

RB notes the membership cost is proposed to keep members engaged in wanting to be involved.

Proposer: Rebecca Brooks

Seconder: Harry Ellen

13: Guest Speaker: Professor Cristobal Uauy, John Innes Centre

Very interesting talk from Cristobal who works at the John Innes centre in Norwich research park with trials in Bamburgh. Talks about how genetics can take between 5-20 years to develop. Talks about how DNA changes are essential for all life. Explains about changes in DNA and how helps farmers to select. Talks about variation in DNA which happens naturally, mutation breeding, transgenics, gene editing and provision breeding. Talks about looking at DNA and how changes can help with health aspects, reduce chemicals and resilience to climate change. Cristobal takes questions from the room.

14: Vote of Thanks

BJ gives thanks to Cristobal on such an interesting topic and developments in science which will be needed for productive farming. John Innes bursary please apply.

15. Presentation of Awards: hosted by Matthew Abram – CAT Chairman 2023/2024

Presented By: Chairman, Mr Benjamin Johnson

- i. **Chairman's Gavel** – awarded by the County chairman to the incoming chairman – Alice Saunders and Poppy Bunting
- ii. **The Chairman's Cup** – awarded for outstanding club achievements
Winner: Downham Market

Presented by: President, Mrs Ches Broom

- i. **NFU Mutual Trophy** – awarded to the club with the most points based on all competitions during the year
Runner up: North Elmham
Winner: Wymondham
- ii. **Norfolk Daniels Charity Cup** – awarded to the club who has raised the most charity monies
Runner up: North Elmham
Winner: Wymondham
- iii. **Programme Winner** - £200 awarded to the club with the best winter programme
Runner up: Downham Market
Winner: Wymondham

Presented By: Sponsor Brown & Co

- i. **Club growth Cup** – awarded to the club with the highest percentage growth
Runner up: Harleston
Winner: North Elmham Countrysiders
- ii. **Presidents Perpetual Trophy** – awarded to the club gaining the most points in all the public speaking competitions
Runner up: Wymondham
Winner: North Elmham
- iii. **The County Stock Judging Trophy** – awarded to the most promising newcomer in the County Stock judging
Runner up: Tia Barrett
Winner: Edward Tarry

CB thanks Brown and Co for sponsoring and thanks Andrew for coming along.

Presented By: Chairman Mr Benjamin Johnson

i. **Certificates of achievement** – including certificates from the National Federation of Young Farmers clubs: men's tug of war, ladies tug of war, junior mixed tug of war, clay pigeon shooting, cookery, floral art, Braintrust, situations vacant, senior member of the year, junior member of the year, MACE Debating, public speaking, reading, stockman of the year, fence erecting, YFC travel and County Officers for 2024/2025

16. Welcome to the 2024/2025 County Officer: incoming Chair Miss Poppy Bunting and Miss Alice Saunders

AS and PB welcome new county officers of 2024/2025 and present them with their badge for the year.

17. Any Other Business**100 Club Draw:**

1st 27 – Ella Mae Hinsley
2nd 44 – James Pattison

Nuffield Scholar – Harry Barnett not present.

David notes it is a great opportunity, travel the world to lots of different countries. Great if right age. HS talks about Tuesday 19th November and importance in standing together with recent changes to the budget. Coach is available for anyone would like to come along and support.

AS and PB thank BJ for his term as County Chairman and present him with a gift.

19. Date of the next meeting

13th November 2025, St Walstan Hall, Norfolk Showground.

20. Close of meeting

CB closed the 80th Annual General Meeting at 21:17.







Do more, Be more with Norfolk YFC

Countrysiders

Acle
Dereham
Downham Market
Harleston
Holt
North Elmham
Wymondham

Seniors

Dereham
Diss
Downham Market
Harleston
Loddon
North Elmham
North Walsham
Reepham
Swaffham
Wymondham

Norfolk Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs & Countrysiders

Registered Charity Number: 304029

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