



1945-2016



# Berkshire Federation Of Young Farmers Clubs Newsletter

## *County Diary Dates*

### May

28th Berkshire Country Fayre Englefield

### June

6<sup>th</sup> Executive Meeting  
8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> South of England Show  
15<sup>th</sup> SEA Meeting Cobham  
17<sup>th</sup> SEA Summer Comps

### July

12<sup>th</sup> Country Spotter Snelsmore  
14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> County Camp  
21<sup>st</sup> Newsletter Deadline

If you need any more information about anything in the County Diary please contact Georgie in the office.

## May's Memo

### County Chair Update

Every time I sit down to write a report for the newsletter we seem to be busier and busier as a county. We have had the pre-show competitions which were very kindly hosted by Newbury YFC. Well done to all members who competed in the stock judging, the fencing and the cookery competitions on the day. We have some very talented members and hopefully they will now go on to compete at the South of England Show and South East Area. We have had a county meeting at Thatcham Discovery Centre where members took part in a scavenger hunt. County meetings are a great way to meet and make friends from around the county and it really is a great opportunity to get together. I look forward to the next one! We also had 13 members attend the National AGM weekend in Torquay. This was a great weekend with lots of partying as well as watching some National Finals. Five members went to the AGM meeting on the Sunday where we were delighted to be able to accept the Life Blood trophy on behalf of Berkshire. We are such a small county so this is a great achievement to win this award. Well done to everyone who got behind the campaign.

The show is just around the corner so hopefully all members are now fully immersed in show preparations and getting all their show classes ready. I am really looking forward to being able to walk round the exhibition tent and watch the practical ring to see what our members can achieve.

We also have the South of England Show coming up where our members are entered into the Cube Exhibit and the stock judging competitions. Good Luck to all who are going. Camp letters will also be going out soon so keep an eye on your inbox. Georgie and I have been busy planning and it is going to be an exciting weekend! Remember Georgie and myself are here to help you make the most out of your membership so if you have any ideas for meetings or things to go on social media then please let us know. Remember to look at the Berkshire YFC website, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

*Katherine Bunn-County Chairman*

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# County Competitions Report

Wow what a great day we all had at Pre-show.

A very big thank you to all the Judges and Stewards and to Newbury for organising a great day. The competitions were all well attended and spirits were high.

Those who won their rounds at pre show have been given the opportunity to compete in the next round at South of England Show. Good Luck to them all.



# Club Updates

## Club Contacts

**Newbury:** [newburyyfc@aol.com](mailto:newburyyfc@aol.com)

**Bradfield:** Jenny Rowe 07502 424840

**Shefford:** [sheffordyfc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sheffordyfc@hotmail.co.uk)

**Windsor&Maidenhead:** [wmyoungfarmers@outlook.com](mailto:wmyoungfarmers@outlook.com)

## Shefford

Shefford Young Farmers have had a busy month with preparations well under way for the county show. I can't say too much but we have had a whole range of activities going on and we have all had a go at painting ready for the co-op exhibit. Members from Shefford enjoyed the county meeting at Thatcham discovery centre, this was a good chance for members to meet up over the Easter break. We have enjoyed a dance meeting where a teacher came in and taught members and even club leaders a routine. Everyone really enjoyed the meeting. We had several members enter the pre-show competitions hosted by Newbury Young Farmers and were pleased to win both the cookery and fencing competition despite the heat on the day. Our meeting this week is a farrier talk and demonstration by one of our senior members Carrie-Ann Young so we are all really looking forward to that.



*Ellie Bunn- Club Chairman*

### Bradfield

Spring has most definitely sprung and with it, club activities seemed to have stepped up a gear or two, this was most evident at our visit to Boot Farm Stud and Stables where the members got to meet “the kids”. Goat kids that is. A bit like spring lambs, the kids are full of energy, vitality and mischief – much like our members! We learnt about the different breeds of goats and the characteristics that each breed brings to its potential products, be it meat or milk – some of which can be sampled on the Queens Head menu no less! With twenty something kids plus members it was an enjoyable if chaotic meeting. Members were invited to “Ready, Steady, Cook” or in some cases “can’t cook, won’t cook”. This is always a fun evening where the members bring their own equipment but are given surprise ingredients to use. Whilst it is of course good fun, underlying themes of food hygiene, healthy eating and teamwork played their part. This evening is also a good practice for our cookery teams to practice for the Pre-Show cookery competition. The Club Bingo evening was smaller than hoped but was good fun and plenty of food was had by all. We’ve been ten-pin bowling, where some of the youngsters proved that skill can overcome brute force and we’re delighted to have new faces appearing each week to keep the club officers on their toes.



In competitions, our inexperienced, but hugely keen and talented Junior Public Speakers; Stephen, Hannah and Becky, won at South East Area to become Area Champions! The Bradfield Reading team, Stephen, Seb and Summer, at the same event came third and were, quite frankly, miffed not to have won as well. The speakers were then thrust into the Southern Regional Finals, at Hartpury College, where they came a very creditable third, narrowly missing out on a place in the National finals. Well done to them for their hard work in practice and performance.

The Club was well represented at the Pre-Show classes; Club members successfully competed in all classes, with many giving some of the competitions a ‘go’ for the first time. Our Junior Stock Judges were particularly impressive with wins in all sections being recorded for both the experienced and the first time members; Katie Bowler, Seb Warrick and John-Paul Perry. Many of the Stock Judges then turned their hand to other competitions with three teams in the cookery and two in the Fence Erecting, Bradfield was certainly well represented.



Particular mention must go to our Fencers’ Noel, George, John-Paul, Seb, Melissa and Jax, who performed in incredible heat and sun with tough ground conditions, really showing the Bradfield spirit. Not to be outdone our juniors in the cookery accredited themselves well and hopefully learned a lot

for next year. With so many youngsters competing for the first time, and enjoying the day, the future looks really positive for the Club.



Of course the Country Fayre looms over Club activities as we prepare for the show classes. The members have been painting, spraying, photographing, arranging, drawing and planning in all manner of ways to gear up for their classes. It hasn't all been hard graft though; there was plenty of chocolate consumed during and after our Easter Egg hunt at Bournefield Farm and fun was had at Thatcham Discovery Centre for the County Scavenger hunt. |

Torquay was of course the destination for some of our over 18's attending the National Convention and AGM weekend. Much fun was had by all, but that's pretty much all I am allowed to tell you! However, Berkshire YFC did pick up a new award for its contribution to the #yflifeblood campaign (which I am sure is covered elsewhere in this issue) we're very proud to have contributed to the County effort and intend to continue donating to this massively worthwhile and essential service.

A number of our older members and leaders served teas and coffees at the Mayfayre and despite the early rain it seems much of the Bradfield population has a sweet tooth for 'Yum Yums'! Most of our meetings in May will be focused on the Country Fayre, but we will also be visiting a Bio-Gas plant and making plans for our Summer Camp.

*Gordon Fletcher - Joint Club Leader*



# County News

## Berkshire Young Farmers Win National Trophy



When Chris Manley, the past National Chairman set the challenge of his Life Blood Campaign, Katherine really got the bit between her teeth. Chris' hope was that each county would encourage as many members as possible to register and donate blood.

As a county there were two group donations organised as well as people going individually. The national figures can be seen on the National Website (link in the last page of this newsletter). As a county we have 13 members who are donors, 8 of those are new donors. Over the year those members made 21 blood donations. The National trophy was worked out based on the percentage of the membership. The trophy was presented at the National AGM. Katherine proudly received it from a Life Blood representative and Chris Manley



Well done to everyone who registered and all those who donated. Winning the trophy is amazing saving lives is even better!

## National Convention Weekend Roundup

13 members travelled to Torquay to attend the NFYFC Annual Convention weekend. This is a three day party to celebrate a great year of Young Farmers. Alongside the drinking and themed nights there is also competition finals, AGRI forum and the AGM meeting to attend. Georgie, Katherine and Carrie had also volunteered to steward some events. They helped with wrist banding on the opening night and then Georgie went on to steward the competition finals and also help out when members from other counties needed help when there was a fire.

The first night was a black tie evening and Matt Edmondson was DJing in the Riviera Centre. A great night was had by all. The next day some



members went to watch the drama finals. This is an amazing experience as the standard is so high. The second night was fancy dress and the theme this year was prince and princesses. Berkshire had decided to all go as different ideas so we had Prince, Snow White, Belle, Jasmine and an Arab prince to name just a few. This is always a fun night seeing what costumes people have gone for. On the Sunday the AGM meeting was in the morning and five members went along this year. We were delighted to be presented with Life Blood



trophy for all the hard work we have put in to Chris Manley's campaign. Well done to everyone who helped with this. Charlotte Smith was elected as the new NFYFC president, she is the presenter of Radio 4s Farming today and is regularly on Countryfile. She will be a great asset to the organisation. The last night is our top night and this is always a favourite. Berkshires slogan this year was "better an awkward morning than a boring night" and these proved very popular as everyone came to swapping shirt time. Chris Stark and Scott Mills were DJing and it really was a great end to the weekend.

Everyone arrived home safely on the Monday if a little bleary eyed and tired. We look forward to Blackpool in 2018.



# County Camp July 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>



Take a look at your emails. Letters have now gone out. Places will be allocated on a first come first served bases.

Want to know what you could be missing???

Take a look at the report from the last county camp here:

<http://berksyfc.org.uk/1/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Septembers-Stories.pdf>



## CALLING ALL SELFIE TAKERS

FANCY YOURSELF AS A BIT OF A  
PHOTOGRAPHER?

LOVE TAKING SELFIES?

THEN THIS IS THE COMPETITION FOR  
YOU 😊

SEND IN A SELFIE OF YOU WITH A FARM  
ANIMAL FOR OUR CHANCE TO BE  
ENTERED INTO THE SOUTH OF  
ENGLAND SHOW.

PLEASE EMAIL THEM TO THE OFFICE

CLOSING DATE THURSDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE. ENTRANTS MUST BE CURRANT MEMBERS





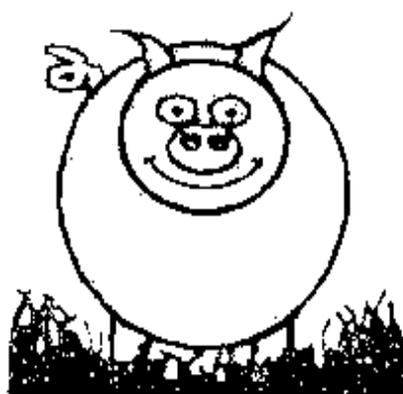
Reg Charity  
No 300104

"A FUN DAY OUT FOR  
ALL WALKS OF LIFE"



Reg charity  
No 300104

# Berkshire Country Fayre



## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Englefield Estate, Englefield, Theale, RG7 5EN

By Kind Permission of Englefield Estate

**9.00am until 5.00pm.**

**Adults £7, Children & Concessions £4**

Family ticket (2+2) £19, Under 5's FREE

**Dogs on Leads Welcome**

### **Berkshire Young Farmers Practical and Exhibition Classes**

Craft & Food Marquees

Countryside Area Farms 2 Ewe

Vintage Machinery/Tractors

Bar and Food

Main Ring Displays

Trade Stands

Birds of Prey

Fun Fair

Steel Band

Inflatables

Hounds

Ferret Racing

Donkey Rides

Dog Show

Classic Vehicles

For further information and details please call Lydia 07733 325110

[berkscountryfayre@gmail.com](mailto:berkscountryfayre@gmail.com)



# National News



All information from NFYFC can be found on their website <http://nfyfc.org.uk/>

## Berkshire Young Farmers Win Life Blood Trophy

Check out the county's amazing achievement on the National Website  
[http://nfyfc.org.uk/NFYFCnews/national\\_news?articleid=11431&single=1](http://nfyfc.org.uk/NFYFCnews/national_news?articleid=11431&single=1)

## BBC News Young Voices Opportunity

Could you help spread the food and farming message with the help of a BBC project?  
[http://nfyfc.org.uk/Onceweekly\\_news?articleid=11428&single=1](http://nfyfc.org.uk/Onceweekly_news?articleid=11428&single=1)

## Meet your new National President here.

Get out there and get heard is the call to arms for Young Farmers from NFYFC's new President Charlotte Smith.

[http://nfyfc.org.uk/NFYFCnews/national\\_news?articleid=11427&single=1](http://nfyfc.org.uk/NFYFCnews/national_news?articleid=11427&single=1)

## TEN 26 Magazine

Ten26 magazine is sent to the homes of around 25,000 young farmers who are members of the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs and are aged between 10-26.

<http://www.nfyfc.org.uk/Ten26magazine/ten26>

## Job Opportunities

National Federation of Young Farmers are recruiting

[http://nfyfc.org.uk/Onceweekly\\_news?articleid=11432](http://nfyfc.org.uk/Onceweekly_news?articleid=11432)

