

## County Chair's Chatter.....

I Hope everyone is keeping well in these uncertain times.

I Know this time of year is very family orientated and I hope everyone can be together and enjoy the festive spirit.

As we enter the New Year, I can only encourage everyone to get involved with the online events that will be running with clubs and County as it will be good to see everyone even if it is on a computer.

I hope to see you in person soon.

Just remember to be Merry and have a sherbet or two and enjoy it with the people around you.  
Merry Christmas.

*Henry Graham (Berks Chairman)*

## County President's Proposal.....

Thanks to everyone who helps with growing and supplying food and drink for us all, also well done to all in the caring services for helping us throughout the year.

I hope everyone can enjoy a quiet Christmas season, please keep in contact with friends and family, especially those who may be lonely at this time.

Hopefully we can enjoy 2021 with a gradual return to normal.

*Andrew Kimber (Berks President)*

## News From National



On behalf of the NFYFC Officers, Board and staff team....

***Very best wishes for a Happy Christmas and here's to a brighter New Year***

We hope you enjoy NFYFC's [virtual Christmas Card](#)

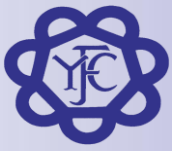
Thank you for all for the work you have done to support YFCs, your county federations, area committees, Wales and the NFYFC. We can now all hope to see the return of YFC activities and programmes in 2021 and look forward to a positive year ahead.

## County Chronicle....

- ❖ The Virtual Rally Exhibition Power point will live to view on the website [www.berksyfc.org.uk](http://www.berksyfc.org.uk) in the new year.
- ❖ Thank you for all your help and support in my first year, it has certainly not been the easiest by far!!

**I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas & a Happier New Year!!**

*Suzi Stebbings (County Organiser)*



## **County Competitions Communique...**

In November we were able to run our first 'Zoom' competition. This was the Berkshire Jesse Matthews Competition, we had six members competing, five juniors and one intermediate. We had entries from Newbury, Shefford and Bradfield – which was the most clubs we had involved for a few years. It was a close competition with Seb Warrick from Bradfield winning the Juniors and Josh Plank also from Bradfield winning the intermediates.

Thank you to Sharon and Andrew for judging the competition, we didn't have too many technical problems, so I think the competition was a success and it was great to finally be able to get our comps programme running again!

Henry represented Berkshire in the first of the National stockjudging finals, this again had to be held virtually on Zoom.

Henry was placed a commendable 4<sup>th</sup> in the Beef Live and Carcase section, I know he's keen to compete again next year and hopefully improve on this.

*Hannah Walters (Berks YFC Comps Chairman)*

## **Club Communication**

**Bradfield's Broadcast....** Since the start of the new YFC year, we have successfully held two face to face meetings, both complying to the COVID-19 Restrictions.

The first was a stroll at Dusk along the River Pang, which provided an excellent opportunity for everyone to catch up with one another. This being the first time some of us had seen each other since March it was very excitable and noisy, I'm sure had we been a little quieter we would have seen much more wildlife than the few frogs and the herd of sheep that we encountered on the way.

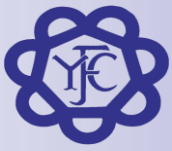
The second was our Un-mounted Pony Club games, which was extremely popular and allowed everyone to compete against each other over obstacle courses consisting of show jumps, barrels and bending poles – again much noise could be heard. It certainly was a fun packed evening, and almost just like old times!

In between we have continued with our virtual meetings which included Bradley's Bingo Bonanza where we had a Full House and we have enjoyed baking delicious Christmas treats in the form of stained-glass window cookies and fudge – most of these creations had been devoured before the end of the evening!

We have also had fun taking part in the County lead meetings for National Young Farmers week and getting back into a little more normality regarding Competitions, many of our members entered the virtual Jesse Matthews competition. Our congratulations to all those who competed, especially Seb Warrick and Josh Plank who won their respective sections.

To round off the year, we have a few more seasonal themed meetings planned, in the meantime everyone at Bradfield would like to wish all our YFC Friends a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful & Healthy New Year.

*Hannah Walters (Bradfield YFC Chairman)*



## Newbury's News....

Newbury YFC took part in the National Young Farmers Week in October held on Zoom with Berkshire YFC. The members racked their brains from a quiz to carving pumpkins and mocktail and cocktail making, I think all that were involved had fun.

Flo Waite also completed in the Jesse Mathews completion held virtually on 11<sup>th</sup> November. Well Done Flo on braving your nerves with the questions on YFC.

Newbury YFC have also held virtual meetings including a welcome back on the 30<sup>th</sup> September, Newbury YFC Annual AGM on the 14<sup>th</sup> October and a Virtual Scavenger Hunt on the 11<sup>th</sup> November, which I think everyone (well I did) enjoyed running around their house collecting items and pets to get back to Zoom as quick as possible without causing too much chaos in their house.

We are looking forward to running 'proper' meetings soon, but it is so good YFC can still meet on a screen all though it is not quite the same.

Other meetings we have planned is a Christmas table decoration evening, Ten Pin Bowling, Virtual Quiz, and a bike ride in the dark...!

*Jess Elliman (Newbury YFC Chairman)*

## Shefford's Summary...

After what seemed a quiet summer the club has been actively meeting from October albeit online via zoom as face to face meetings are still proving hard to organise with all the Covid restrictions!.

Members are embracing the new way of meeting and we had a successful AGM in October which saw Victoria Ackrill voted in as our Club Chairman and the Advisory Committee taking a more active role in running the club. Thank you to all our Members & Vice Presidents who came along for the evening.

This was followed by our first Bingo evening which was a great success and got the competitive spirit going through the members, especially when there was more than one from a family attending. Members have also attended some fun County meetings, involving quizzes, pumpkin carving and cocktail making, all of which were greatly enjoyed by those who attended.

As December was fast approaching, we felt it was time to get 'into the Christmas spirit' so we had a great meeting making Christmas Trees from paperback books. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed making their trees and we all learnt that doing it with a thinner book was a lot less time consuming!! All the trees were beautifully decorated with an enormous amount of glitter!!! This was followed last week by a fun Christmas quiz and bingo evening, which all members who came along had a great time!

Our meetings are continuing throughout January and February 2021 and at the moment they will be online but if we can coordinate a face to face meeting at a safe venue we will do.

*Milly West (Shefford YFC)*



## Windsor & Maidenhead's Words...

Since September we have had our first meet back in person, this is where we signed membership forms and played some social distanced games like 'splat' etc. This was on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October.

We then soon after had a pumpkin carving night on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October, some members dressed up for Halloween which was fun to see. It was also nice to get back to some sort of normality for a while.

Unfortunately, we then went into another national lockdown on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November, however we didn't let this stop us. We still had some fun night's meeting virtually with another club quiz, this time with a separate juniors and seniors one.

A cocktail and mocktail making night (thanks to county for the idea!! We were unable to join theirs but we loved the idea of it so decided to try our own.)

Our most recent meetings have been Christmas themed with making decorations and gingerbread decorating.

We all can't wait till we can have some more face to face meetings and are able to share with you all, what exciting stuff we've been up to.

*Ellie Smith (Windsor & Maidenhead Club Leader)*

## Grand Draw Prize Winners

The Grand Draw this year took place at our County AGM via Zoom. We would like to say a big Thank you to everyone who brought tickets, to Alethea Snelling for organising it and folding all the tickets and **Congratulations** to the winners.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize £100 – Mr & Mrs I Stanley

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £50 – Hannah Donaldson

Gift Cards – Jane Wells

Wendy Minter

Andrew Phillips

The D'Olleys

Rachel Wale

Even in these tricky times, everyone came together and supported BFYFC in true Berkshire YFC style, it was a great success, so Thank You!