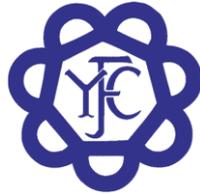


Oxfordshire Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs



Chairman's Newsletter Autumn 2015

I have only recently taken over the role from Naomi so I have yet to get round to all of the club meetings and meet you all but I am hoping to attend some of the club AGM's and the County sports and competitions.

This year there is a focus on recruitment and retention of members on a national level. I have found over the years that the best way to increase membership is to keep bringing people along to meetings. So if you know of someone who is new to the area, or a friend that hasn't been along before then invite them to a meeting or a social event. They may take a bit of persuading but usually once they have seen what it is all about they will keep coming back each week.

I am also keen to organise some more YFC parties. They are a great way of getting people along and showing them what Young Farmers is all about and can also be a good money maker for clubs. Unfortunately the number of parties in this county has dwindled over the years mostly due to a lack of venues, so if anyone knows of a free shed or a village hall that doesn't have too many close neighbours then let me know! Bicester did a great job organising their summer party and raised a significant sum of money for both the Senior and Junior clubs.

The application deadline for YFC travel trips in 2016 is Friday 13th November. I was lucky enough to work in New Zealand through a YFC scholarship and I would highly recommend it to anyone. There are lots of other travel opportunities ranging from a few days to a few months and it is all subsidised so it's a very cost effective way of seeing more of the world! I would urge everyone to have a look on the NFYFC website to see what is on offer.

It has been agreed that the next County Ball will be held in June 2016. Please can everyone start thinking of suitable venues and the type of event they would like to attend and let me know so we can get the ball rolling!

It will soon be time for the senior quiz to start again and before that we have the Junior and Senior Badminton Competitions. Thanks to Will Brown for organising all the competitions through the year. This role on the county committee will be up for grabs at the AGM on the 2nd of December so please let Amber or I know if you are interested. The other roles available are Vice Chairman, Secretary, Social Secretary and many smaller roles such as Travel Co-ordinator and SEA representative. These roles will not take up a massive amount of time but they will allow you to have an input and be part of a team. It will also look great on your CV!!



Kate Henderson

OFYFC County Chairman 2015/16