



Young Farmers Ambassadors



ENGLAND AND WALES

A few words from your Chairman

I hate to start talking about the weather, but I can't avoid it! I don't remember when we last had a dry week here in West Wales, and things have not been much better in the Newmarket area. However, things have improved in the last fortnight and we are flat out baling anything that looks like straw. I hope everyone's harvest is going well. So much for that 'Barbecue Summer'!

On the Wednesday of the 2009 Royal Welsh Show, I had the great pleasure of attending the YFA Reception, held at the YFC Centre. It was an honour meeting the Royal Welsh Lady Ambassador, Miss Lucinda Dargavel from Glamorgan. I also met the two exchangees who were on the Wales YFC International Exchange Programme from Illinois, USA, Clint Davis and Erin Petersen, and, of course, all the way from England, big Craig Thompson.

I would like to thank the Wales Reunion Committee for organising a successful event during the 2009 Royal Welsh Show. I'm sure if anyone is interested in doing something similar in their own region, the committee would be more than willing to give some advice. (*Ed, Yes we would. Contact detail on the back page!*). It's a great way of meeting old friends and making new ones, or getting some shelter from the rain – those who went will know what I'm talking about !

I must sign off now, as I have sheep to sort, and they will not get shorn by themselves! I hope to see some of you in Newcastle.

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AUTUMN 2009

Dear YFA

I have just returned from spending two weeks in Scotland on my Discovery trip through NFYFC. I am writing to thank you for my Scholarship, but also to let you know how I got on.

I arrived in Edinburgh on Saturday the 13th & spent the first weekend with some family friends in Duns before heading back on the Monday to Edinburgh to meet the other exchangees. As a group of ten we got on famously – with exchangees from



Switzerland, Finland, Norway, Australia, Northern Ireland and Wales as well as myself from England.

The first three days were spent in Edinburgh and on a bus around an old clay mine, the Albert Bartlett potato factory and the Camera Obscura. All our meals were paid for, which was very generous. We attended an International meal which was superb and then met our host families the following day.

Katie (on the right) meeting Adam Lawson, the Chairman of the Scottish Young Farmers, at the Royal Highland Show

The next week was spent visiting Glasgow, bowling, cycling around Millport, Isle of Arran cheese tasting and

shopping, pub crawls and general fun and frolics ! We saw Burns's cottage too, and ended the hosting with a lovely meal out. We spent the last four days of the Exchange at the Royal Highland Show, where we ate and drank ourselves around the whole show and attended some superb evening dances. Whilst there, we were put up again in a four star hotel in Edinburgh.

Overall, the trip was absolutely fantastic – I have met so many friends from Scotland and also from many other countries due to the Royal Highland Show and the other exchangees. The best bit is that everyone shared the same Young Farmer values – this made it very easy to relate to people and generally get on so well.

Thank you very much once again.

Yours sincerely,

Katie Winfield, Staffordshire, YFA Scholar
Exchangee to Scotland, June 2009

NEWS - NEWYDDION

Peggy Michell (European Rally 1981) and her long term partner Rob Amos, who are both well known to YFA and IFYE and are hooked on Reunions and Conferences, became engaged recently and will be tying the knot on 26th June 2010. Congratulations and best wishes to you both and about time too !!!!!



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Caroline receiving her trophy from Emma Penny, Editor of the Farmers Guardian

We would like to congratulate **Caroline Dawson** from Clwyd (Zambia 2007, Autumn Seminar 2008), on winning the **NFYFC Senior Member of the Year** title at the 2009 AGM in Blackpool. She is having a busy year, as she is also vice chair of Wales YFC's Activities and International Committee, and is to appear on Ready Steady Cook in the next few weeks.

Speaking exclusively to the YFA Newsletter, she said 'I would like to thank everyone who has supported and encouraged me throughout the county over the last few years, you all know who you are. I am so grateful for the opportunities that Young Farmers have given me and the

wonderful people that I have been fortunate to meet. I hope what I have achieved inspires other members in the county to try and to put Clwyd YFC on the map once more.'

I thought you might like a snippet for the newsletter - my daughter Katie Baines (nee Hall) who went to USA, and The European Rally etc and was originally a Derbyshire member then worked for YFC in Oxfordshire and was later Kent County Chairman - and her husband Leigh (also ex Kent County Chairman) had Lucy Elizabeth Rose on 15th April - a much loved little sister for Sam.

Cheers, Sue Hall (Denmark, Poland, Rally) and John Hall (Finland)



Llongyfarchiadau ar eu dyweddiad diweddar i **Rhydian Rees** a **Ruth Hughes**. Congratulations on their recent engagement to Rhydian Rees (Rally, Seminar, Kenya and Northern Ireland) and Ruth Hughes (Austria and Rally)

Buddug Lloyd (Rally 2009) has had a pretty exciting summer. Not only has she got herself into 2 pictures in this Newsletter, and had a great trip to the 2009 European Rally, but she has also got engaged to Gary Davies. Many Congratulations to you both. Llongyfarchiadau gwresog.



Rali Ewropeaidd 2009 European Rally

'Beware, Active Youth' oedd thema'r rali a gynhaliwyd yn Estonia ym mis Awst eleni a dyna oedd wythnos o weithgarwch prysur. Roedd yn brofiad bythgofiadwy wrth i dros gant o bobl ifanc yn cynrychioli 18 o wledydd ymgynnull ynghyd i ddysgu, trin a thrafod ac wrth gwrs chwerthin a chymdeithasu. Un o uchafbwyntiau'r trafod oedd gweithdy'r 'World Cafe' lle'r oedd cyfle i leisio barn ar gyfranogiad pobl ifanc yn eu mudiadau ieuencid a'u cymunedau. Roedd yr awyrgylch yn anffurfiol wrth i ni sgwrsio dros banded a fu'n sbardun gwych i sicrhau fod pob un o gwmpas y bwrdd yn cyfrannu profiadau personol ac yn rhannu syniadau.

Does dim un digwyddiad 'Rural Youth Europe' yn gyflawn heb y bwffe rhyngwladol a dyna oedd gwledd i'r synhwyrâu - er doedd pob un blas neu arogl ddim cystal â'i gilydd! Ond roedd rhaid rhoi tro ar bopeth ac ymestyn ein gorwelion i'r bwydydd amrywiol oedd gan y wahanol wledydd i'w cynnig. Yn wir, un o brif atyniadau'r noson oedd y 'Dwr o Gymru' ond bois roedd rhaid i chi fod 'na i ddeall arwyddocâd hyn!!

Cafwyd cyfle i ymweld â chanolfannau ieuencid yn Estonia i weld pa gyfleoedd roeddynt hwy yn gynnig i'r bobl ifanc ond yr hyn oedd yn braf oedd eu hawydd hwy i ddysgu wrthym ni hefyd. Dyna wir ysbryd yr wythnos arbennig hon - oes mae tipyn o gymdeithasu - ond bois mae'r deall a'r dysgu yn gadael argraff bositif ar bob un o'r cyfranogwyr.



Enjoying the International Buffet at the Welsh table are Buddug Lloyd, Marc Allison, Eivind from Norway, Lyn Jenkins, Enfys Evans and Ruth Hughes

'Beware, Active Youth' was the theme of this years' rally held in Estonia in August and indeed what an active week we had. It was certainly a memorable experience with over 100 young people representing 18 countries gathering together to learn, discuss and of course laugh and socialise. One of the highlights of the weeks discussion was the 'World Cafe' workshop were we had a chance to voice our opinion on youth participation in organisations and communities. An informal atmosphere with a lovely cup of tea led to fruitful contributions from each and every one seated around the table and many ideas were shared.

A Rural Youth Europe event is not complete without the International Buffet and this was certainly a feast for the senses – but not all tastes and smells were pleasurable!

More News & some Snippetts

Croeso cynnes i Megan Dafydd a Morgan Elwyn Mason.
Congratulations to Dafydd and Kay Lewis (nee Harries) on the birth of a daughter, Megan Dafydd on the 4th of May.
Congratulations also to Rhydian and Elen Mason on the birth of Morgan Elwyn Mason on the 31 July. A brother for Gwenllian.
Llongyfarchiadau gwresog.



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Best wishes to James Cowan (Chair of England and Wales YFA) and Sarah on their forthcoming Wedding on the 26th of September 2009

Four of the five YFC members who went on exchange to Canada in 1990 on the 4H trip are in regular contact, but they have lost touch with the 5th member, Jo Albutt from Gloucester (as she was then). As it is their 20th anniversary next year, they would like to try and meet up for a re-union. Therefore, if you can help us contact Jo then it would be greatly appreciated.

Ed. Please contact me or Helen Bradley (nee King), lady-bradley@hotmail.co.uk



Rural Youth Europe is seeking volunteers for their International IT and Communication group (ITCG).
The group will be responsible for developing the online resources of Rural Youth Europe, including the development of a new website and developing new e-tools and materials.
Members are expected to have an interest in, and some knowledge and experience of, website design and e-tools.
Members need to be available from now until April 2009. Please contact Christine Hope (Christine@hopesoflongtown.co.uk) for the full advert, and then Amanda Hajnal at office@ruraleyouthereurope.com for further information.
Closing date is the 25th of September.

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We are currently building up our list of Email addresses of YFA members. This is used to contact members to ask about news, and can be used to notify people of events during the year.

If you have not received Emails from YFA in the past few weeks about the Newsletter and Electronic Communication, then we do not have your Email address. If you would like to be on our Email address list, please send an email to me at dfw@aber.ac.uk. Thanks

2009 IFYE European Conference, Isle of Man

In early July, 150 IFYEs from Europe and friends from USA and Australia experienced 1000 years of history when they met at the 51st Conference hosted by the Isle of Man.

After our Viking party of the Saturday night, it was time to exchange our 'old rags' for our 'glad rags' to attend the service in the chapel of King William College - our home for the week - where we were treated to an abundance of 4* meals. During the afternoon we were special guests of the Governor of the Island (by kind invitation of our own Martyn Quale, European President and Minister of Leisure and Tourism of the ancient House of Keys, the Manx Government), at a garden party where we enjoyed a splendid tea. Local Young Farmers entertained us during the evening and the highlight was undoubtedly the motor cycles and parrot!!!! The next day we witnessed the official opening of Tynwald, the Isle of Man Parliament in the magnificent setting of Tynwald Hill in glorious sunshine. The day concluded with 'Beat the Retreat' and a fantastic firework display.

Visits had also been arranged to the Government's headquarters in Douglas followed by a steam train ride back to Castletown. Other trips included Peel, a picturesque fishing town with its imposing ancient castle where, at high tide, basking sharks could be seen, the TT course and Bike Museum, vintage bus and electric tram coastal trip to Ramsey and the famous Laxey Wheel, the largest working waterwheel in the world, and a stunning coastal walk from Port St



Mary to Cregneash Folk Museum and the Calf of Man on the south-western tip of the island where we could see both Scotland and Northern Ireland. Those of us fortunate enough to do the walk also had the chance to enjoy a ride in a rigid inflatable boat (thanks to a contact of Rob Amos) down the coast to Calf Sound where we saw Manx Shearwaters nesting and young seals on the rocks.

L to R, Alison Spencer, David Hull (we think !!) and Mary. Proper Celtic Vikings

Host family day gave our members a chance to experience more of the island and their homes and farms and they all joined us in the evening for a delicious barbeque of Aberdeen Angus, Queenies and Manx ice-cream followed by a ceilidh in the marquee in the grounds of the college.



Newly engaged, Peggy and Rob enjoy a quiet pint at the Viking Fancy Dress Party

All too soon it was the end of the week. At the General Assembly Martyn was re-elected as President and after some free time in Castletown it was time to prepare for our farewell gala dinner and dancing until the small hours.

Our thanks to our hosts Martyn Quayle and Angela Southern for all their hard work in organising a wonderful week.

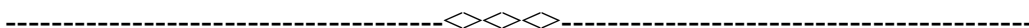
The website can give you more information about past and future conferences, visit www.ifye.co.uk and there are lots of exciting photos on Facebook.

In 2010 we are being hosted by Austria, near Salzburg 31st July - 7th August. Be there, or be square !!!

Mary Roberts – Netherlands 1977

Ed, My personal highlight was the parrot - a Manx Young Farmer dressed up as a parrot on a perch - who sang and told jokes whilst swinging around on his perch. It was the funniest thing I have seen in a long time.

We would all, like to thank the Isle of Man committee for organising such a great IFYE Conference. See you all in Wales in 2013 !



Thanks to all of those who have contributed articles and news to this Newsletter. If you have any news that you think might be of interest to your fellow YFA members, please contact me, Huw Williams, Ael y Bryn, Llanon, Aberystwyth, SY23 5HX, dfw@aber.ac.uk, 01974 202439