

KENT COBBLERS

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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2006

www.kentyfc.co.uk

Chairman's Ramblings:

If ever there was a classic movie one liner that fits the scenario I find myself in as I begin to write the first edition of Cobblers this year, it's the one that reads "It's life Jim, but not as we know it" appropriate, possibly true, but not the line I was looking for. The one I was thinking of goes "I'll be back!" After chewing it over, I decided to stay. I know I said I wouldn't, but it was always on mind. I just wanted space to think about it. I got married in May and I needed to ensure that I considered the bigger picture. I make no secret of the fact that whilst I need to ensure that I offer time and devotion to Young Farmers, I also and more importantly must offer time and devotion to Miriam, my wife, as well as my own life. To make my decision I kept my head down till I knew I was happy. I must thank all the people that encouraged me and offered me their support.

So I'm back, no change there then, just like a bad penny, but it won't be the same old story that I can promise you. County is growing stronger and more organised, it still has some homework to do to get everything right, and we've had a few after school detentions for things that have gone wrong, so we'll learn, sort them and move on. Things like showing age at the Kent Show, and spending money where and how it is due for the members, we can fix it, just need to talk it through, it's our member's organisation.

YFC has a strong top table behind me with **Ed Lovejoy (Ashford YFC Chairman)** as our **County Vice Chairman** and **Stuart Jakeman (ex Canterbury Chairman)** as our **County Junior Vice Chairman**. We also see **Steph Dean** rising again as **Kent Show Sub-Committee chair**, **Andy Farrell-Roberts** taking Chair of **Sports & Comps** and **Michael Sims** returning to **Chair M&P**, leaving Social with a vacant seat which hopes to be filled at the first Subs.

We're not a dormant group, we're a lively thriving organisation that has every intention of kicking butt. I can't say it enough that YFC is a past time and a pleasure. HONEST! We're not paid or forced to be here. We're here because we want to be. HONEST! I won't ask of anyone something I wouldn't do or have done myself in the past or wouldn't do now. You can only do so much, we're all human, we'll get it wrong from time to time but if we help each other, we can make a go of it and my next cheesy film one liner in a future Cobblers could be "to infinity and beyond"

PS: for those that have been following the saga... I'm still very much homeless, living out of a suitcase with all my worldly belongings boxed awaiting the Solicitors to get of their fat unmentionables so we can move in. Thank goodness for parents. But at least I'm in the right County making life easier this year!

Looking forward to working, drinking, dancing and laughing with you all throughout the year,

Your re-elected **County Chairman**,
Chris Bowley
07811324471

Dates for Diaries:

For those on e-mail today **only** – last bookings for Canterbury's Dinner Dance on Saturday 2nd December @ Brome Park, Barham, Canterbury from 7 pm – licenced bar, raffle, dinner and dancing! **£28.00 pp.** – contact Adam Taylor by tomorrow at the latest for those last tickets.

4th and 5th December – Ashford Fatstock Show

11th – December – Sub committee meeting – Detling Village Hall – 8pm

17th December – Carols with Animals @ Oldborough Manor School YFC – 2pm onwards

A THANK YOU NOTE

On Sunday 5th November, a couple of guys from North Downs YFC (Karl & Stephen) turned up at Axton Chase School to complete the work on our poultry pen. Unfortunately, for what ever reason, some of the others were unable to get along. However, those that did turn up did an absolutely fantastic job. Due to a lack of manpower we were not able to complete the whole pen so it was decided to split the pen into two halves & get one half up & running. Well, the guys have yet again done a fantastic job. One section of our pen has been transformed from a chicken run into a 'henny hilton'. The accommodation is top notch & the security arrangements, well they have to be seen to be believed. Electric wires top & bottom etc etc. Oh, those young farmers did us proud. To be honest they couldn't have completed it at a better time as next weekend I am picking up the first 15 of 30 ex battery hens which my pupils have decided to "rescue". What with their new accommodation & conditions these new birds won't know what's hit them. Everything is now ready for them to arrive, even down to the food. Because they are school chickens they are going to have to stick to Jamie Oliver's school dinners programme. Fresh fruit & veg every day!! No junk food & definately no chicken twizzlers!! On a more serious note can you once again put a **thank you** in the next Kent Cobblers thanking the **North Downs YFC**. Axton Chase School YFC could not continue without outside help such as this. My pupils are all special needs children & the majority travel in by taxi from several miles away. We, therefore, have no real core of parents/pupils to call on when we need help, so these YFC folk are really helping to keep my YFC alive. What they don't see is the pleasure my pupils get from doing something as simple as collecting a few eggs or the sheer joy they get walking a lamb around the show ring. Without wishing to sound over dramatic none of this would be possible without help such as this because unfortunately the school are not at all forth coming with help. So those folks who so willingly come along & help us out are a real blessing to us.

Kind regards

Sheila Flight
Axton Chase School YFC

....North Downs to the rescue yet again!!!! The Batmans and Robins of the YFC world!

Field Officer report will follow shortly.....as will the club levy bills!

County Secretary: Catharine Sherwood: 21, Linton Hill, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 4AS
01622 743078 or ccebridle@aol.com.