



**Young Farmers'
Clubs of Ulster**

AGM

Saturday 15th April 2023

**PRESIDENTIAL
TEAM CANDIDATES**

2023 - 2024

PRESIDENTIAL TEAM



PRESIDENT STUART MILLS

Moneymore YFC

Mechanical Project Manager with part-time Beef & Cereal Farming

'Through participation in many of the competitions offered by the Association, I have developed a broad range of practical life skills and am a passionate supporter of YFC Charity work. I am keen to share my teamwork experience and competition knowledge with new and younger members. I understand the importance of networking and growing our profile within all parts of the agri-food supply chain. I am enthusiastic to take an active role to grow the YFCU for the next generation.'

- Length of YFC membership: 22 Years
- Responsibilities at Moneymore YFC: Club Committee (2007- Present), Club Leader, Club Secretary, Treasurer, PRO, UFU Representative, Club President
- Member of Co. Londonderry Committee (from 2008).
- Positions held include: Co. Secretary (2016 -17), Deputy Chair (2017-18), Co. Chairman (2018 -19)
- YFCU Executive Committee (from 2016) and Chair of P&D Committee (2017-18)
- YFCU Farm Safety Mentor, delivering workshops (2019– present)
- YFCU European Rally team member - Scotland (2018)
- Exchangee Host (2017, 2016 & 2014)
- YFCU Delegate at Macra na Feirme conference (Oct 2017)
- Assessor for Co. Antrim, Co. Armagh, Co. Down, Co. Fermanagh, Co. Tyrone
- My proudest YFC achievements include winning Club Leader of the year (2015), Treasurer of the year (2017), NI final for Beef Stock judging (2017)

PRESIDENTIAL TEAM



DEPUTY PRESIDENT RICHARD BEATTIE

Finvoy YFC

Bsc (Hons) Agriculture, Harper Adams University (2013–2017)
PGd Ruminant Nutrition, Harper Adams University (2017–19)
Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers (RABDF) UK dairy
student of the year 2017

'If successful in the forthcoming election I wish to drive membership numbers and more importantly participation in competitions through improved communication direct to members and parents. Supporting the work of the YFCU Mental Health and Wellbeing committee will be of great importance and increasing the number of ambassadors across the province to facilitate training for all members to achieve this whilst looking to work with existing and potential new funders. Above all else I hope to ensure YFCU remains relevant going forward and maintain the reputation of our excellent membership into the future.'

YFCU Central

Vice President YFCU 2020 – Present
Chairperson Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs Committee
Executive Committee 2019–present

YFCU Club

Club Leader 2020– 2022
Club Secretary 2018–2020
Committee Member 2011–Present

YFCU County

Chairperson 2021–2022
Treasurer 2019–2020
County Committee 2017–Present

Achievements

County Antrim Junior Member 2010
2011 junior exchange to Sweden
1st Ulster Young Farmer 2016
County Antrim Senior Member 2019

PRESIDENTIAL TEAM



HON. TREASURER BOB ESLER

Lisnamurrigan YFC (former)

'I have actively worked with 5 CEO's and now welcome the opportunity to work alongside our new CEO Gillian McKeown. I believe in prudence in all financial matters and expect due diligence to be completed as matter of course.

YFCU is in a strong financial position but I do not take this as a given. The organisation needs to continue to grow and prosper and I would wish to continue to play my part in this as Honorary Treasurer.'

HND in Agriculture and Business Greenmount College
Diploma In Management UJJ
Institute of Bankers Level A and B Examinations

Ulster Bank 40 years. Including 10 years as Assistant Agricultural Manager. Last with 15 years with Ulster Bank spent in various locations as Business and Corporate Manager.

Currently asset finance auditor for BCA covering Northern Ireland.

Central Committee

YFCU Honorary Treasurer 1998 to present.

YFCU Club

Active member of Lisnamurrigan form 1972 until 1978.

VICE PRESIDENTS



BRIAN WADE

Hillhall YFC

Full time farm supervisor at Laganvale Farm and
Landscape Gardener
Member of Hillhall YFC for 11 years

'My aim is to be there if any member or club needs help or support. Everything I do within the young farmers I do for the members to help them get out as much as possible from the organisation. I hope to be able to be there for all members within the organisation not just my club or county.'

- Club roles have included PRO and Treasurer
- Current Club Leader since 2019
- Current Club COVID officer, child protection and first aid officer
- Current Club County Sub Committee Rep
- Currently sitting on P&D committee
- Completed international exchange to Norway in 2022
- I steward at every possible competition even if I'm not competing
- Spent the last year building strong bonds between our club and the local community
- Try to compete and encourage our members to compete in all competitions

VICE PRESIDENTS



KRISTINA FLEMING

Ballywalter YFC

Manager at MIS Group

Member of Ballywalter YFC, 2008 to present

'I have been an extremely enthusiastic member for 15 years. Throughout this time I have developed life long skills by taking part in various competitions, activities and the many opportunities the YFCU has given me. I am passionate about the organisation and I will endeavour to like to give back to the YFCU and encourage its members to get the most out of our organisation. To be elected as your Vice President to represent you would be a great honour and privilege.'

Previous roles within the YFCU

Junior Representative 2010 – 2011

Club PRO 2011 – 2013

Assistant Secretary 2013- 2015

Council Representative 2013 – 2015

Club Secretary 2015 – 2017

Assistant Club Leader 2018 – 2019

Club Leader 2019 – 2021

Committee member 2010 – present

County PRO 2015 – 2016

County Secretary 2018 – 2019

County Chairperson 2021 – 2022

P&D Representative

Chair of Programme & Development
Committee 2021 – 2022

Executive Board Member 2020 – present

Balmoral Show Committee 2021 – 2022

Balmoral Show Chair – 2021

YFSeesYou Ambassador 2022 – present

Achievements

Produced Ballywalter Arts Festival 2015

1st Place in County Secretary of the Year 2016 &
2017

2nd in NI Top Club Secretary 2017

1st Place in County Club Leader of the Year
2020 & 2021

NI Top Club Leader 2020

VICE PRESIDENTS



LAURA PATTERSON

Holestone YFC

Children's Daycare Manager and Nursery School Teacher

Level 5 Diploma in Leadership for Children's Care Learning and Development Management

Length of membership - 13 years

'I have been an active and enthusiastic member of the YFCU for the past 13 years. I have made sure to take full advantage of all the opportunities that the YFCU has to offer and would love to be able to continue to help the organisation grow. I would be extremely grateful for the opportunity to give back to the YFCU as a Vice President, and continue to drive our membership and member participation. I would love to help expand members knowledge of competitions to help increase participation and see members back competing in competitions, as well as bringing fresh ideas to the table.'

YFCU Central

P&D committee 2018 – current
Executive Member 2021/22, 2022/23
Balmoral Show Committee 2019, 2022, 2023
Represented YFCU on NI Youth Forum 2016/17

County Antrim Committee

Treasurer 2020/21
Assistant Secretary 2021/22
Secretary 2022/23

Holestone YFC

Club Leader 2020–2022
Assistant Treasurer 2019–2020
Hall Committee Member 2015 – present
Rep on Antrim Show Committee 2018–present

Achievements

Won Co Antrim Senior proficiency shield in 2016, 2017, 2021, 2022
Placed 2nd in Co Antrim Senior Member of the Year 2017
Won Most Efficient Secretary in Co Antrim in 2017
1st Place in Co Antrim YFC, County Princess Competition 2019
2nd Place in Co Antrim YFC most efficient Club Leader 2022
Proficiency badge 11

Other

Assessed Co Down Top Club Secretary 2022 & PRO 2023
Assessed Co Londonderry Pinta Princess 2022 & Senior Member of the Year 2023
Assessed Co Antrim first round efficiency 2019

VICE PRESIDENTS CONT.



MATTHEW LIVINGSTONE

Collone YFC

Agri Mechanic, Ben Sergeant Tractors

Achieved Level 3 diploma in Land Based Service engineering at Southern Regional College.

Worked for Jim Graham Tractors, Burkes of Cornascriebe, and Ben Sergeant Tractors whilst completing diploma and have taken up full time employment with Ben Sergeant Tractors since 2016.

'I am a dedicated, active and passionate member of the YFCU and I have gained a lot of life skills, opportunities and friends during my time as a member of the organisation. It would be a privilege to be elected as vice president of the organisation to encourage members to get involved more and grab every opportunity available to them. If elected I would like to help grow and build the YFCU to be the best it can be.'

- Collone YFC Member since 2012
- Collone YFC Committee Member (2013-present)
- Council rep (2015-2017)
- Club Leader (2018-2020) during which the club won Club of the Year competition for the first time
- Chaired club 75th anniversary celebrations committee
- Co Armagh Top Club Leader 2019/2020
- Co Armagh Vice Chair (2021-2022)
- Co Armagh Chair (2022-present)
- Executive Member (2019-present)
- Assessor for County Down DTTF 2nd round Club Leaders 2022
- Assessor for County Down DTTF 2nd round Junior Members 2023
- Assessor for County Tyrone Efficiency Competition 2022/2023
- Collone YFC rep to Armagh County Show (2015-2019)
- Armagh County Show Committee Member (2019-present)
- Attended YFCU Agri Conference 2022
- Travelled on club exchanges to Scotland and England
- Exchange hosting
- Livingstone Tractor Run rep from Co Armagh YFC

VICE PRESIDENTS CONT.



RACHEL SMITH

Moycraig YFCU

BSC (Hons) Food Design & Nutrition
Graduate Certificate in Business Communication for
Rural Enterprise
Length of Membership – 12 Years

'I have been a passionate and dedicated member of the YFCU for 12 years, gaining copious life skills, lifelong friendships and unforgettable memories. My main aim would be to share my passion of the YFCU to encourage member retention and recruitment. As a vice President, I would provide a fresh driven outlook on the opportunities of the organisation, in particular helping to build additional links to our Agri-Food Industry.'

YFCU Central

P&D Committee 2022 – Present, Executive Committee 2022 – Present

Club

Ass PRO, PRO, Ass. Secretary, Secretary, Council Rep & Ass Club Leader

County

Assistant Secretary

Achievements

1st Place County Secretary 2021/2022

3rd Place NI Secretary 2021/2022

YFCU Presidents Award 2020 – 2021

YFCU First Aid and Child Protection Officer

Facilitated Office Bearer Training for County Antrim Secretaries – 2022

Assessed County Londonderry Efficiency Competition

1st NI sheep Stock Judging – 2021

Club YFCU Exchange Host – 2020

VICE PRESIDENTS CONT.



SHANNEN VANCE

Trillick & District YFC

NFU Mutual Customer Sales Advisor alongside part time beef and sheep farmer

- Degree in Agriculture (BSc), University of Glasgow
- Committed and active member of Trillick & District YFC since 2008

'I have been a dedicated and passionate YFCU member for 15 years and have gained knowledge, experience and life skills during this time. I have thoroughly enjoyed being a Vice President of the YFCU for the past year and would embrace the opportunity to have another year to take on further challenges and opportunities, to continue helping to move the organisation onwards and upwards.'

Club Roles & Achievements

- Club Leader (2011-2014) during which the club won Club of the Year
- Club Treasurer (2019-2021)
- Assistant Treasurer (2022)
- Has sat on Club Committee since 2011

County Roles & Achievements

- Current County Tyrone Chairperson since 2021
- County Treasurer (2020-2021)
- County Public Relations Officer (2012-2013)
- Won Top Club Leader and Top Club Treasurer
- Won various competitions at County Level including Demonstration Presentation, Public Speaking, Sheep Stock judging, Floral Art and Tyrone Senior Member of the Year in 2021
- County Efficiency Judge for County Antrim, Armagh, Londonderry, Fermanagh and Down

Northern Ireland Level Roles & Achievements

- Sat on P&D committee and Balmoral Show Organising committee
- Represented County Tyrone on Executive
- 1st place in NI Finals of Demonstration Presentation in 2022 & 2nd place in 2020, 2nd place in NI Finals of Prepared Public Speaking in 2019
- Placed 2nd Club Treasurer in NI in 2019 and 3rd place in 2020

Travel Opportunities

- Participated in short Term Exchange to England in 2015
- Represented Tyrone at the Miss Macra competition in 2019
- Travelled to Germany 2022 as a member of the European Rally Team