

THE
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REVIEW

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YDP Final report 2023

The full complement of 36 young people from England, Ireland and Scotland arrived at the Hogs Back Hotel on the Friday evening, where YDP shirts, ties and fleeces were awarded to all for reaching the 2023 Final. They wore this kit while competing in their three age groups of juniors, intermediates and seniors, at the home of the Rosemead Herd.

Our hosts, Angus Stovold and family, along with his herd manager, Tom Beadle and his team, pulled out all the stops and made us feel very welcome and catered for. Facilities were perfect and all 38 heifers were so quiet and well behaved. Even the weather was on our side, with sunshine all day. With the help of our stewards, Owen Tunney, Gemma Wark, Steph Dick, Nicola Howie and Niall Lynch, the competitors got stuck into the disciplines of the Saturday with great enthusiasm. The enormity of the planning and preparation that goes into holding an event such as this could not be accomplished without the support of fellow breeders, families and stockman from all around. For this we are most appreciative. The reward: being able to observe the finalists on the day give their everything to compete at an extremely high level with absolute professionalism, decorum and sportsmanship. Some of the many skills learnt at the workshops held around the UK and Ireland through the spring and summer of 2023.

Competition venue hosts:

Messrs P C Stovold & Son, Rosemead Herd, Lydling Farm, Shackleford, Nr Godalming, Surrey

Presentation reception evening hosts:

Mr & Mrs D Brenninkmeijer, McClemens Herd, Field Place, Compton, Guildford, Surrey

Judges:

Ring craft	David and Penny Evans
Dressing & grooming	Drew Hyslop
Stock judging	Ruth Perry
Panel judges	Finlay Munro, Rob Bishop and Felicity McGrath

In between the competitive elements were workshops including:

Care of your cow through pregnancy
Maarten Boer

Photography
Catherine MacGregor

Discussions on calf care and weaning
Owen Tunney

Farm walk of Lydling Farm
Finn Stovold

Our evening hosts Dennis and Simone Brenninkmeijer, could not have done more to make the young folk and guests feel at ease and comfortable, with amazing retro food vans including excellent pizza or burgers and chips, accompanied with amazing side salads. The alfresco dining under the warm October sky made the whole evening magical.

We owe them a huge gratitude for welcoming our final competitors to their home and giving us a warm reception. With the presentation of awards being spread among those gathered, the prizes of clippers, blowers, and £1,500 travel bursary went to Graeme Rhind, Finlay Hunter and Cameron Barclay. Naturally the Scottish

representatives were very buoyant with their success. Very well done to them and all the prize winners for all their hard work and victories. Baseball caps, trophies, glass awards, certificates for winners and for all who participated, meant that everyone went home with something to be proud of. We must thank Owen Tunney for generously sponsoring additional prizes in the form of showtime beef kits for the runners up in the intermediate and junior sections. It was the perfect ending to an amazing day.



YDP Final 2023 results

Juniors

Dressing and grooming:

- 1st Cameron Barclay
- 2nd Fletcher Russell
- 3rd Aine Heffernan

Clipping:

- 1st Sam Ferguson
- 2nd Cameron Barclay
- 3rd Vinnie Lane
- 3rd Megan Reynolds

Ring craft:

- 1st Aine Heffernan
- 2nd Adam Kearney
- 3rd Veronica Webster

Stock judging:

- 1st Adam Kearney
- 2nd Fletcher Russell
- 3rd Sam Ferguson

Panel:

Overall junior:

- 1st Cameron Barclay
- 2nd Adam Kearney
- 3rd Sam Ferguson

Intermediates

- 1st Finlay Hunter
- 2nd Cliodhna Smith
- 3rd Kirsty Clark

- 1st Finlay Hunter
- 2nd Eion Robinson
- 3rd Ruby Simpson

- 1st Jack Heath
- 2nd James Morrison
- 3rd Cliodhna Smith

- 1st Ruby Simpson
- 2nd Kirsty Clark
- 3rd James Morrison

- 1st James Morrison
- 2nd Ruby Simpson
- 3rd Isobel Walsh

Intermediate:

- 1st Finlay Hunter
- 2nd James Morrison
- 3rd Ruby Simpson

Seniors

- 1st Greame Rhind
- 2nd Sam Matchett
- 3rd Ellie Westaway

- 1st Greame Rhind
- 2nd Donald Mclean
- 3rd Sam Matchett

- 1st Donald Mclean
- 2nd Cara Doggett
- 3rd Lizzie Harding

- 1st Ellie Westaway
- 2nd Lottie Hill
- 3rd Sam Matchett

- 1st John Smyth
- 2nd Greame Rhind
- 3rd Catherine Smyth

Senior:

- 1st Greame Rhind
- 2nd Ellie Westaway
- 3rd Donald Mclean



Final winner

I'm Graeme and I'm 22 years old and I am really delighted to be the winner of the 2023 YDP final. The final was made up of ring craft, dressing, clipping, stock judging and a panel interview. I managed to come first in the clipping and dressing and was second in the panel interview.

Winning has given me the fantastic opportunity to travel to see how Aberdeen-Angus perform in other parts of the world. I'm very excited as I'm interested in different blood lines and ways to improve my herd. I have yet to decide where I will go, but I'm drawn to Canada or America to see larger scale, ranch-type systems.

I work at home on the family farm at Newton of Struthers in the north east of Scotland. We run a herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, a small herd of Limousin cattle, and a flock of Blue Texels along with a flock of commercial sheep. In addition to the livestock, we also grow malting barley for our local distilleries and run an agricultural contracting business.

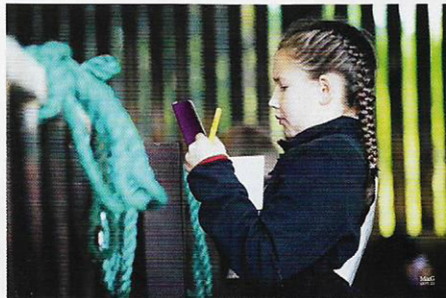
Having grown up on the family farm I have always had a passion to work with and turnout animals, with my grandad showing me the ropes from an early age. This summer has been one to remember as my home-bred heifer Newton-Struthers Espresso lifted numerous breed championships, as well as a few interbreeds. Achieving so much with a heifer that I have seen grow since day one was very special to me. She is sired by Ed, our stock bull, which is doing a great job for us, leaving us tremendous females.

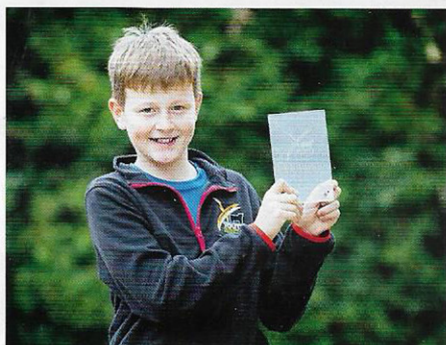
This year was my second time competing in YPD. I qualified at the Ballinalloch workshop. This event saw a great turn out, it was excellently run, with great cattle to work with. A few weeks later, I took the long trip south to the Rosemead Aberdeen-Angus herd in Surrey for the final, where an excellent weekend was held and I was able to put my knowledge to the test.

The YDP workshops are an amazing opportunity to learn and meet new people, you don't have to have Aberdeen-Angus cattle to get involved! I would encourage anyone who has the chance to give it a go.

Graeme Rhind









“YDP was the best way for me to expand my network of like-minded people in the industry.”

Stephanie Dick, Stephick herd, Stirling