

August 2019

Issue 32

# TARFF VALLEY LTD

Trading Together, Growing Together, Since 1903

Ready....Set.....GO!

Newsletter

44 YEARS AT TARFF!

Ian Gordon started with Tarff at Ringford on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 1975!

Ian's never easy to track down as he's always busy in the Ringford yard making sure everything is in order, from ensuring customer orders are fulfilled and logistics are in place.

Ian is always on hand to help, has a constant smile on his face and nothing is ever a problem.

Our sincere thanks to Ian for the last 44 years and however many more we can keep him for...!



Follow us,  
Join us,  
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@tarffvalley



Supporting partners:



#GGC19 | Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August

## Great Glen Challenge 2019

With our two intrepid Tarff teams ramping up the training for the RSABI Great Glen Challenge on 30<sup>th</sup> August, and our continued business sponsorship of this long established charitable organisation, it is perhaps a good time to look more closely at how the vital funds are used to benefit those who find themselves in need of assistance.

The purpose of the organization is to provide emotional, practical and financial support to individuals and their families across a range of occupations which have the common theme of working on the land in Scotland, and today there are over 600 people and their families being assisted in these ways.

RSABI has a skilled and dedicated staff team who work together to help, in strictest confidence, anyone who approaches or is referred to them, who is within the scope of what they can offer and is in need of support. They often work in association with other agencies with referrals working both ways. Assistance can range from help with completing paperwork to calling, either in person or by telephone, for a chat or to give practical advice, from awarding grants for household essentials to temporary payments to assist until the beneficiary is well enough to return to work or overcomes the crisis in their life. Each response is tailored to the needs of the individual or family and no two are ever the same.

The helpline is available every day of the year from 7am – 11pm.

To help support RSABI in their vital work, (and spur our teams on in the process), please visit the just giving page and make a donation today:

(<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=TeamTarffandTarffastic&isTeam=true>). You can sign up to the RSABI Supporter Scheme, from £25 annually for an individual, and from £125 annually for a business (including farms). It could make all the difference to someone in desperate need of help.

The number to call is 0300 111 4166.



46km Mountain Biking



6km Kayaking



18km Walk



17km Run

### Ian joins the Tarff Team at Ringford!

Ian Menzies joined Tarff as a Sales Assistant in the Ringford shop in June. Ian previously worked as a Production Supervisor where he led the team in the packing department. Ian is new to the agricultural industry and is learning a lot in his new role. He's currently studying for his AMTRA qualification which means he'll become a Suitably Qualified Person (SQP) so he can advise on animal health products over the counter and sell these. In Ian's spare time he enjoys spending time with his family and playing a round of golf. Not to mention that he was in the winning team at the Tarff golf day last month! Ian is looking forward to meeting customers, learning new things about agriculture and passing his AMTRA qualification!



### Meet Dafydd, our Tarff Trainee

Dafydd Gwynne has joined Tarff as a trainee. Dafydd comes from Whithorn where he lives with his family who run a pedigree Simmental farm. Dafydd enjoys working alongside his family but has decided to take on a trainee role within Tarff to gain a different insight into the agricultural industry. Dafydd will be shown various areas of Tarff and has started his first work 'placement' in the Ringford shop. Once Dafydd passes his driving test, he'll be out on the road visiting farms taking soil and silage samples. To add to Dafydd's experience, he'll move into working in the yard learning about the logistics side of the business. The overall internship should give Dayfdd an idea of how Tarff serves farmers throughout the business's trading area. If you see him out and about, please make sure to say hello and ask him how he's getting on!



## FLY CONTROL

Flies not only annoy your herd and flock, they can cause major economic production losses through reduced feed intake which impacts productivity. Studies in cattle have shown the production loss caused by flies can be up to 0.3kg a day growth rate loss and up to 0.5l a day milk loss. Sheep studies have shown that fly worry has caused weight loss of up to 5.5 kg over four to six days and reduced wool production has up to 26%.

Pop into your local Tarff branch to see the treatment options available. An SQP will be more than happy to advise and help you decide which product is suitable for you.



## LOCAL SHOWS

Thank you to all our customers who visited the Tarff tent at the recent local shows. We hope you enjoyed our various displays of the exciting new things happening within Tarff!



**NEW BAGS!** We've recently redesigned our 25kg bags, half tonne and tonne totes. We've kept these traditional with a modern twist to match our new lorries.



## WIN! Alligator Pro 250

Until the 31st of August 2019, Allflex are offering farmers who purchase Allflex Sheep Tags the opportunity to win an Alligator Pro 250!

Bought Allflex Sheep Tags? Follow the link for your chance to win an Alligator Pro Sheep Handling System (<https://www.allflex.global/uk/win-an-alligator-sheep-handling-system>). Using your CPH number, Allflex match the number of tags you have bought during the competition window to calculate your total number of entries (100 Tags = 100 Entries). Terms and Conditions apply and can be found through the above link.

**Allflex** Livestock Intelligence **PRIZE DRAW** **WIN**

Buy Allflex sheep tags for the chance to **WIN** an **Alligator mobile sheep handling system**

An Antelliq company \* Terms & Conditions apply

## Stamp Out Lameness

Independent experts point out that the summer months are a great time to start implementing the proven Five-Point Plan for reducing sheep lameness.

"The sheep industry has made real progress with lameness over the last few years but must maintain momentum if it is to meet the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC) target of 2% disease incidence in the national flock by 2021," says Dr Ruth Clements, head of veterinary programmes at farm-based research and development organisation FAI Farms, which developed the Five-Point Plan.

"Implemented correctly and given long term commitment, the Five-Point Plan gives sheep farmers a clear framework for managing lameness effectively because it builds natural disease resilience within the flock, reduces the disease challenge and spread on the farm, and improves flock immunity through vaccination. More widespread adoption on farm will also help the sheep sector cut its use of antibiotics for foot infections and meet new industry targets. A sheep-sector specific targets taskforce facilitated by the Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture Alliance (RUMA) has already signed up to a 10 percent reduction in antibiotic use by 2020," Dr Clements adds.

Dr Clements says sheep farmers are generally keen to get on top of any flock lameness issues, but sometimes feel helpless and often find it difficult to know how and where to start.

"Now's the time to start thinking about it seriously," she says. "Weaning is an ideal time to cull out any ewes with chronic feet, re-set the breeding flock for the new sheep year and build from there."

During August and beyond, further practical help on how to implement the Five-Point Plan will also be available from your local stores' SQPs.

## Pre-Apprenticeship Focus

### Introducing MATTHEW McCRONE

Why did you apply for the Pre-Apprenticeship Programme?

"I applied for the programme to get more experience in Agriculture and learn how the industry works. I've had previous experience on farms at weekends whilst being at school but I wanted to focus on learning the differences within farming enterprises i.e dairy, beef and sheep."



Since starting the programme, what have you learnt?

"Whilst at the Barony for the three-week induction, I learnt a variety of skills which I have taken into the workplace and put into practice. Productivity is key in this sector as you need to think quickly and complete all tasks to a high standard whilst thinking about the welfare of the animals."

What would you like to achieve from the programme?

"Throughout my placement, I would like to build on my skills and develop my knowledge of the dairy sector. I'm hopeful that the programme will open doors for me and give me more opportunities for careers in the future."

### Introducing WILLIAM BARROWMAN

Why did you apply for the Pre-Apprenticeship Programme?

"I have been brought up on a beef and sheep farm but wanted to learn new skills in another area of agriculture. My placement is on a dairy farm so I'm looking forward to working with Andrew and the rest of the team at Lochnaw and gaining an insight into what they do."



Since starting the programme, what have you learnt?

"I have learnt a lot of different skills including how to keep safe on farm! The health and safety event held at Oatridge in our first induction week showed how easily and quickly accidents can happen. Throughout my last week at the Barony, I enjoyed the telehandler course and I'm pleased to say that I passed my skills test and I can use this machinery on the farm."

What would you like to achieve from the programme?

"I would like to learn new skills, specifically in dairy farming, which should hopefully help me gain entry to a Modern Apprenticeship. I'm looking forward to the next few months of working on the farm, so we'll see where this takes me!"

We'll continue to introduce our Pre-Apprentices over the coming months. If you are interested in becoming a mentor for our Pre-Apprenticeship intake next year, please contact Tracey McEwan for more information (07785 657861 or [tracey.mcewan@tarffvalley.co.uk](mailto:tracey.mcewan@tarffvalley.co.uk)).