

Care Farming UK

Social Farming Across Borders 12 September 2012



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care farming uk
Helping people grow

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What is Care Farming?

- There are many definitions across Europe and many terms associated with it e.g. social farming, green care agriculture, farming for health
- Care farming combines care of the land with care of people – a **partnership between farmer, participants and health, social, justice or educational agencies**
- The utilisation of agricultural farms as a base for promoting human mental and physical health
- Combining productive farming with elements of healthcare, social rehabilitation or education and giving back to society i.e. farmers recognising they can help provide a solution



“Care farming is the therapeutic use of farming practices”

- Utilises the whole or part of a farm
- Provides a **supervised, structured programme** of farming-related activities
- Provides services on a regular basis for participants
- Provides health, social or educational care services for one or a range of vulnerable groups of people



Care Farming UK

Vision:

Thriving farms and landscapes providing social, educational, therapeutic and development opportunities.

Mission:

*Provide a voice and supportive services for **care farming**, to inspire decision makers and to develop policies and actions that will support care farming in the UK.*



Care Farming UK – Current situation

- Formed as a Company limited by guarantee in May 2011 with 12 initial directors of which 7 are practising care farmers. Independent Executive Officer as secretariat. Became a charity in April – **1147064**. First **AGM** in November
- New membership scheme launched in September 2012 – offering benefits of website entry for farms, case studies, Ebulletins, newsletters, quality standards, training courses, reduced fees for conferences etc. New website just being completed. Helpdesk run from office
- Growth and the ability to form Care Farming UK has given strength to increase regional & country initiatives – there are now 9
- Following a discussion seminar held in May 2012 on the development of accreditation and quality standards for care farmers – now forming a Quality Standards Committee
- Started Cost Benefit research initiative with Bulmer Foundation in June 2011 – moving to piloting of Evaluate! Toolkit

Highlights of 2010/11/12

- Reception at Highgrove (April 2010)
- Visit by Norwegian Delegation (May 2010)
- Clarence House reception re ex-servicemen (Dec 2010)
- **17 supported care farm open days across UK - 2011**
- Dorset Commissioner event (April 2011)
- First 'All Wales Conference' (May 2011)
- Inaugural Cost benefit research group (June 2011)
- New Care Farming UK launch - Norfolk Show (June 2011)
- Suffolk Care Farm Conference (Nov 2011)
- Seminar on accreditation (May 2012)
- Northumberland conference (June 2012)
- First regional networks meeting (June 2012)
- Relaunch - Care Farming Scotland (June 2012)
- Livestock Show (Sept 2012)
- SoFAB launch (Sept 2012)
- **AGM & National Conference London (Nov 2012)**



4th National Conference 2012

'Celebrating Care Farming: Overcoming Current Challenges'

**Monday 19th November 2012 – The Royal Over-Seas League, St James's Street
London SW1A 1LR**

9.15 – 4pm

Key issues: -

- Accreditation & Quality Standards
- Personalisation budgets
- Contracting with the public sector

Celebrating:-

- New showcase DVD & Chat shops
- Updated scoping study
- Network growth

Keynote speakers:-

Dr Daniel Poulter MP

Jane King, Editor of Farmer's Weekly

Cost - £50 members or £75 non-members

Network growth in regions/countries

- Some are formal others informal – 9 now in total. Vary in motivations, composition and support offered
- **Care Farming Scotland (CFS)** – co limited by guarantee/a charity – now re-launched
- **Care Farming West Midlands (CFWM)** – company status. Regional funding through RDPE funding. Development manager & 3 devpt officers. New website & dvd's
- **Care Farming East Anglia (CFEA)** - Farmer driven, strong links with commissioners. Conferences, training arranged locally as well research links with UAE
- **Staffordshire Care Farming Co-operative** – formed of 10 practitioners now working closely with Staffs C C commissioners and received placements. Seminars
- **Green Care in Northumberland (Green CiN)** –formed in spring 2011 - strong support of Northumberland C C and local commissioners. Conference – June 2012
- **SoFAB (Ireland & Northern Ireland)** – European INTERREG programme , a 3 year project to develop 20 pilot care farms, training, a shared network. Part of PAG
- **Green Therapy in Dorset** – newly formed on line directory called SOURCE backed by Dorset C C & held successful commissioner event this year
- **Wales** - The IRH undertook a study for Welsh Govt & brought together local practitioners, but looking for funding for a secretariat. Amelia Trust acts as champion
- **South East** - informal led by ex farmer assists those considering care farming route



Growing
People's
Potential

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Find a Care Farm

UK and Overseas



What is Care Farming?

Care farming is the therapeutic use of farming practices. Care farms:

- Utilise the whole or part of a farm
- Provide health, social or educational care services for one or a range of vulnerable groups of people
- Provide a supervised, structured programme of farming-related activities

Care Farming UK 2012 Conference: Royal Over-Seas League, St James, London, on Monday 19 November from 9.30am – 4.00pm. [Click here for more details.](#)

Care Farming UK is becoming a paid membership organisation. To find out how you can join and receive lots of benefits simply [click here for more details.](#)

Care Farming UK has moved: We have moved to a new office in Shrewsbury, Shropshire. [Click here for full details.](#)

News & Events

News:

- [Care Farming UK Important Changes](#)
- [Care Farm Gets Grant](#)

Events:

- [Care Farming UK AGM, London](#)
- [Care Farming UK Conference, London](#)

[Follow Care Farming UK on](#)

Resources

Information Resources

These pages contain more information about care farming in the UK and Europe, including case studies, reports and research documents.

Care Farm of the week



Acton Mill Care Farm
Herefordshire
01886 884227
Rosemary Hooper

Acton Mill Care Farm is situated in picturesque countryside on the

[click here for more info..](#)

Join Care Farming UK

Become a member of Care Farming UK and join the network.

Click the link for details:
[Join Care Farming UK](#)

Forgotten your password?
[Click here](#)

The Care Farming UK website

The screenshot shows the Care Farming UK website in a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar displays the URL <http://www.carefarminguk.org/allcarefarms.aspx>. The website's header features the title "Care Farming UK" and the tagline "Growing People's Potential". A navigation menu includes links for Home, About Us, FAQ, Find Care Farms, News, Resources, Events, and Contact Us. A registration form titled "Already joined?" prompts users to enter their email and password. Below the navigation, a "Related Links" section provides help for an interactive map, drop-down boxes, and a UK care farm map. The main content area, "Care Farms registered with us", explains how to use the interactive map to find farms in a specific region. A map of the United Kingdom is shown with numerous red location pins, primarily concentrated in the East of England. To the right of the map, a dropdown menu is set to "East of England" and "Essex". Below the map, a detailed profile for "Pets Corner Open Farm" is displayed, listing the contact information for Justin Hopwood, including his address (Essex, CM20 2QG), phone number (01279 422790), email (justin.hopwood@harlow.gov.uk), and website (www.harlow.gov.uk).

The Care Farming UK website



The screenshot shows the Care Farming UK website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with buttons for Home, About Us, FAQ, Find Care Farms, News, Resources, Events, and Contact Us. To the right of the menu is a search bar labeled 'search site...' and a 'People's Potential' logo. Below the navigation menu, the main content area features a section titled 'Growing Connections' with the subtext 'find another care farm'. This section includes a photograph of a group of people, a list of contact details for Joan Woods, and two paragraphs of text describing the farm's activities and mission.

care farming uk
Helping people grow

People's Potential

Enter your password:

Home About Us FAQ Find Care Farms News Resources Events Contact Us

search site... 

Growing Connections

find another care farm



Growing Connections
Joan Woods
403 Gransha Road
Down
BT19 7PX
07411 044 265
joan.woods67@ntlworld.com
www.growingconnectionsproject.org.uk

The farm has 90 acres of grazing land and 14 acres of woodland just outside Bangor in Northern Ireland. Our main aim is to develop social connection between people and to demonstrate environmental and social sustainability and compassionate farming.

We give the opportunity for people to experience growing their own food, sustainable living and being involved in outdoor group activities. Our volunteering opportunities and courses are in woodland management, traditional crafts (such as stonewalling and willow weaving), growing vegetables and animal management. Anyone is welcome to volunteer with us and we particularly encourage people who feel isolated or disadvantaged.

Done

Internet 100%

start Northumberland Conf... SoFAB Presentation 1... Show Farm - Window...

12:31

The Future of UK Care Farming

These are very exciting times but.....

- There is no one 'right' answer or model of care farming (or networking) and so there is no one 'right' example to follow; some will succeed, others may fail
- Our diversity is our strength – must avoid pushing everyone into the same model - what works in one area / country may not work in another
- Advise new care farmers to follow their own path and use the expertise / support from both other regional groups and the UK network, make full use of the Care farming UK website's pages on setting up a care farm
- Care farming will not suit all farmers: international evidence shows successful care farmers all have an **altruistic desire** in addition to wanting to keep their farm economically viable – not just a desire to add another income stream! **i.e. PASSION**
- **Care Farming UK** – advocacy, lobbying, influence decision makers, develop policies, provide accreditation, provide support through membership & networks. Showcase through website, seminars, conferences, case studies. Information & research.

Thank you

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