# LINCOLNSHIRE FARMING CONFERENCE

NROSO PORTSIS

### FUTURE FARMING OPPORTUNITIES: **BIODIVERSITY & CARBON**

### THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2024

lincolnshireshowground.co.uk









## 2024 PROGRAMME

9.30am	<b>Opening Remarks:</b> Kelly Hewson-Fisher - LFC2024
9.45am	Chair Michael Kavanagh - Shropshire Farm Manager, Co Founder The Green Farm Collective
10.05am	Liz Bowles - CEO, Farm Carbon Toolkit
10.25am	Panel Session with previous speakers
10.45am	Coffee Break
11.15am	Neil Fuller - Sustainable Landscapes
11.45am	Janet Hughes- Programme Director for the Future Farming and Countryside Programme (FFCP)
12.15pm	Panel Session with previous speakers
12.45pm	Lunch
1.45pm	James Brown - Polybell Farm, The Lapwing Estate Q&A
2.15pm	Keynote Speaker: David Webster - CEO, LEAF
3.00pm	<b>Closing Remarks:</b> Kelly Hewson Fisher - LFC2024 Chair

To book your place, visit **lincolnshireshowground.co.uk** 



TICKET INFORMATION

Adults £15 | Students £6 | LAS Members Free

\*please note there will be a booking fee









#### Michael Kavanagh

Michael is a farm manager from Shropshire who was a Soil Farmer of the Year finalist in 2020, Farmers Weekly farm manger of the year finalist, Crop Production Magazine climate change champion 2022 and a 2024 Oxford Farming Conference (OFC) Inspire delegate.

His crops are grown with a focus on plant health and minimising synthetic outputs through his methods of tilling which does not disturb the land.

Michaels farming methods have encouraged regeneration of his soils, with organic matter increasing and the farm sequestering a significant amount of carbon. Regular bird ringing is done on farm and is an excellent indicator of the flourishing biodiversity on the farm.

Michael is a co founder of The Green Farm Collective, a farmer owned company set up to trade natural capital, transfer knowledge and trade regeneratively farmed produce.



#### **Liz Bowles**

Liz is the Chief Executive Officer at The Farm Carbon Toolkit, having been a director there for the past five years.

Liz brings not only an extensive expertise in the UK food and farming markets, but she also has a deep and practical understanding of the importance of improving soil health, reducing environmental impacts and greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture, and building resilience within the sector.

She advocates that building economic resilience must occur alongside retaining product quality and animal welfare standards and building sustainable, regenerative practices on farm.

Liz is also an Oxford Farming Conference Director and an advisor to Sell My Livestock. In her spare time Liz manages one of the largest pedigree flocks of Shropshire sheep in the UK and combines this with being a Council Member of the Breed Society.











#### **Neil Fuller**

While studying Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at Newcastle, Neil developed a passion for soil microbiology and nutritional biochemistry. From this emerged a dedicated agricultural consultancy that has been actively engaged on farming, food and nutrition projects around the world ever since its formation in 1986.

Neil's involvement with agricultural soil carbon featured in the finals of the COP26 Climate Challenge Cup, culminating in the issuance of the UK's first high-integrity farm soil carbon credits.

He is author of the Carbon Farming Manual and technical lead for the Good Soil Guide, an online reference and knowledge-sharing platform for the Sustainable Landscapes initiative sponsored by Yorkshire Water, which currently has subscribers in over forty countries.

Neil spends a great deal of time running soil safaris, hands-on agronomy workshops and highenergy presentations on farming, food and climate change.

#### **Janet Hughes**

Janet is the director of the farming and countryside programme in Defra – the programme responsible for taking England out of the Common Agricultural Policy.

Defra is phasing out agricultural subsidies and introducing new environmental land management schemes to pay farmers to take care of the natural environment alongside food production including reducing climate emissions, storing carbon and mitigating the impacts of climate change.

The programme is also funding investment in farm productivity, innovation, research and development, and reforming farming regulation to make it fair, proportionate and effective.

Before that she had a career in and around the public sector, leading teams to get difficult things done in ways that genuinely work for people including in education, health, the Government Digital Service and London city government.











#### **James Brown**

James is the 5th generation of the Brown family to run the Lapwing Estate Group. With 120 years of history in farming the family are immensely passionate for growing healthy, affordable food whilst enhancing the land and surrounding environment.

Pollybell Farm now leads the way in sustainable farming practice in the UK. Within the Farm there are three Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), these depict what a unique environment there is and highlight the work Pollybell does to tirelessly preserve and manage them.

The Lapwing Estate sits on lowland peat which has been historically drained for agricultural activities. This land however emits vast quantities of greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere.

The Estate has developed a new model for "Rethinking peatlands", which both sequesters and abates significant quantities of carbon, and also produces food with measurable positive environmental and social impact.

#### **David Webster**

David joined LEAF as Chief Executive Officer in September 2023, before this he worked as Director of Sustainability and External Affairs for the UK Grocery Division of Associated British Foods (ABF).

David joined W. Jordans (Cereals) Ltd, working closely with founders Bill and David Jordan to publicise the Jordans breakfast cereal brand and its longstanding commitment to wildlife friendly farming.

In 2008 Jordans was acquired by ABF, David subsequently went on to lead sustainability for the Jordans & Ryvita Company, before being promoted to the position of Divisional Director for Grocery in 2017.

He has a deep interest in farming and wildlife stemming from this work, and in particular the formation of the highly respected Jordans Farm Partnership, through which he worked alongside longstanding farm suppliers to the Jordans business together with LEAF, the Wildlife Trusts and The Prince's Countryside Fund.





### WITH THANKS TO OUR **SPONSORS**



















@ @lincsshowground
f /LincolnshireShowground

X @LincsShowground

**% #LFC2024**