



# The Norfolk Scholar Competition 2025



## Apply now to become a Norfolk Scholar for the 90<sup>th</sup> Oxford Farming Conference Scholars Programme 2025/2026, sponsored by McDonalds.

If you are a young person (aged between 18-30) involved in the Agricultural Industry, live/work or study in Norfolk, and have not previously attended The Oxford Farming Conference, then you are able to enter the **Norfolk Scholar Competition** courtesy of **The Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association Opportunities Fund**.

The RNAA competition offers **FIVE (5)** individuals the opportunity to attend either the full programme or just the conference and to be named as Norfolk's Farming Scholars to be at the epicentre of all agriculture's pressing issues at the start of 2026.

The Conference titled 'Growing Resilience' and the Scholars Programme provides a great opportunity to participate in discussions surrounding the key topics affecting the Agricultural industry and to gain personal and professional development as future leaders of UK agriculture.

- One-day in-person event in London on **Friday 17 October 2025**, in collaboration with McDonalds.
- In person or online event on **Wednesday 5 November 2025**.
- An online interactive Zoom call on public speaking, building confidence and leadership, with all scholars on **Tuesday 9 December 2025**.
- In-person communications and social media training on **Wednesday 7 January 2026** at the Oxford Farming Conference.
- Full attendance, accommodation and meals at the Oxford farming Conference from **Wednesday 7 – Friday 9 January 2026** (no travel expenses are included).

**New for this year** – Applications submitted to the RNAA will be reviewed by the OFC Directors who will select 12 individuals from across the country to attend the full Scholarship Programme. The full Programme will include pre-conference learning events in October, November and December 2025, 2-night's accommodation and all meals at the OFC from Wednesday 7 to Friday 9 January 2026. Individuals will be expected to attend the pre-conference events as listed below.

**Applicants not selected for the full programme by the OFC** will receive a ticket to attend just the Conference on Wednesday 7- Friday 9 January 2026 and the RNAA will supplement attendance with 2-night's accommodation (hotel TBC) plus an allowance for event meal expenses.

**Travel expenses for programme events in October, November and December and also the Oxford Farming Conference will not be provided by the RNAA and will be the responsibility of the**

applicant.

**TO APPLY:**

Applicants must submit the following information and answer all the questions below and email to Maria at the RNAA to: [maria.skitmore@rnaa.org.uk](mailto:maria.skitmore@rnaa.org.uk). **Applications to the RNAA close on WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2025.**

The RNAA will submit online applications to the OFC based on the information provided by each individual no later than the application closing date on Friday 3 October 2025.

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

UK Resident (Yes/No): \_\_\_\_\_

Attended OFC before (Yes/No): \_\_\_\_\_

Can attend all OFC events as highlighted above (Yes/No): \_\_\_\_\_

Please confirm you are happy for your contact details to be shared with McDonald's, if they wish to get in touch to find out more about your experience, post event (Yes/No): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Bio (Max 250 words):

1. Please describe your current role, occupation or studies (highlight Norfolk involvement):

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2. What do you hope to gain from the programme, to support your personal and professional development?

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3. Why should the RNAA nominate you for this Scholarship?

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4. What are your career ambitions?

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5. What are the three most important challenges facing UK agriculture in the next 5 years and why?

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**Please also attach a head & shoulders image with your application.**

Successful applicants must be willing to work with our marketing team pre and post event to share their experience of the programme and conference so that the RNAA can share these valuable insights with our wider network; this may include speaker and networking events.

Please feel free to share this information with anyone you know who meets the above criteria.

Regards,

