

### THANK YOU!

This year, LEAF Open Farm Sunday celebrates its 20th anniversary with a focus on encouraging more farmers to open their gates, tell their unique stories and put farming centre stage.

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us today and are hoping that you have an enjoyable and informative day exploring our farm.



### TIME SPECIFIC EVENTS

- Watch our Level 1 Calf Show at 10am, 12 noon and 2pm
- Robotic Dairy Unit Talks at 11am & 1.30pm
- Calf Igloo Talks at 1pm
- Silage Talk at 3pm

Please see the map for further information

### CATERING SERVICES

We have various catering facilities throughout the day which can be found in front of the Rural Innovation Centre and near the Arts and Crafts Zone

### TRADE STANDS

We are delighted to welcome on site various different Trade Stands today. These will be located outside our Rural Innovation Centre and will include artisan cheeses, honey, brownies, candles and plant sale.

### TOILETS

Mens and ladies toilets will be positioned across the site and marked on the map.

### UPCOMING MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE EVENTS

**Course Advice Morning**  
Saturday 3rd October 2026  
(10am till 1pm)

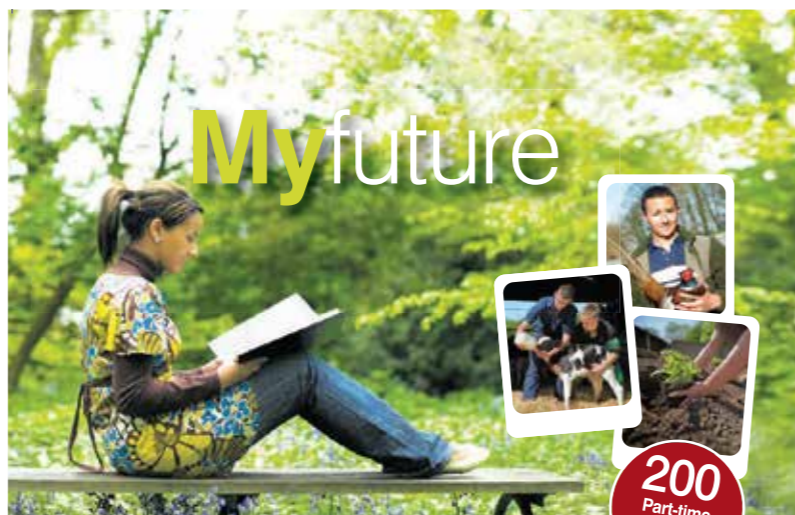
**Course Advice Morning**  
Saturday 21st November 2026  
(10am till 1pm)



For further information about courses at Myerscough College, please contact Course Enquiries on 0800 6525592 or email enquiries@myerscough.ac.uk  
Myerscough College, Bilborrow, Preston, Lancashire PR3 0RY Tel: 01995 642222 www.myerscough.ac.uk

### MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE FARMS ARE FIT FOR A KING

Myerscough College was honoured and delighted to welcome His Majesty, King Charles III, for a private visit and tour of Lee and Lodge Farms, during his recent engagements in Lancashire. Please visit [www.myerscough.ac.uk](http://www.myerscough.ac.uk) for the full story or scan the QR code.



If you've finished school or college this year, take a look at the **full-time courses, degrees** and **work-based apprenticeships** available at Myerscough - with a range of options across 20 subjects, including:

- Agriculture ■ Land & Wildlife ■ Animal & Horse Care ■ Horticulture
- Veterinary Nursing ■ Sports Coaching ■ Tree Surgery ■ Football
- Motorsport ■ Landscape Gardening ■ Agricultural Machinery

**APPLY NOW**

Places still available on courses starting in September

Choose **myerscough**

- Dedicated £5 million North-West Food and Farming Rural Innovation Centre
- Daily bus services from across Lancashire
- £30 million campus building programme
- 95%+ student satisfaction with teaching/support
- Superb career and employment opportunities



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# Open Farm Sunday

## Programme and Countryside Trail Guide



# Farm and Countryside Trail



## MYERSCOUGH LODGE FARMYARD

The Farm and Countryside Trail starts by walking around the perimeter of the old Lodge farmyard. The distance is 1.2km or 0.7 miles. Whilst the walk is flat, sensible footwear is advised.

## OVER THE OLD RIVER BROCK

Behind the old lodge farmyard, cross over the bridge looking out for Kingfisher, Moor Hens and Ducks. If you keep quiet you might see a Heron! River habitats provide homes for voles, otters and many insects. The rich biodiversity of the river reflects the diversity of the environments they flow through. Oyster Catchers (traditionally a breed of tidal estuaries) travel inland to breed and hopefully you will find them on the trail. Look overhead where Buzzards can sometimes be found soaring and circling. Upstream there is the remains of an old mill and part of the geology of the area finds amounts of mill stones in the river. On the other side of the bridge turn left where the trail loops around a crop of willow in Cockshutts Field.

## COCKSHUTTS FIELD

This 7 hectare field is growing Spring Barley to the West and Willow to the East. Willow boosts the farms biodiversity providing the perfect habitat for bees, spiders, butterflies, and ground beetles. Willow provides pollen and nectar in early spring (January) to the end of May providing sustenance for the college bees. Willow grazing decreases methane emissions from livestock and leaves provide a valuable source of cobalt and zinc.

## MILL FIELD

Leaving Cockshutts Field we walk towards Mill Field, where we have established herbal leys for the sheep flock. The ley includes festulolium, red clover, chicory, plantain and yarrow. Herbal leys are becoming an integral part of the grassland system at Myerscough Farms and have been sown to improve soil structure and health, resilience in dry periods, nitrogen fixation, benefits of carbon sequestration and improved biodiversity of bird and insect species. Good livestock growth rates are gained on these leys and provide anthelmintic properties so less need for wormers. Watch out for hares which can often be found playing pairs! Cross over the low bridge into Barn Field. Lee Farm can be seen in the distance.

## BARN FIELD

Keeping the ditch to your right-hand side, travel up the side of Barn Field passing the wild Willow which straddles the ditch. For most of the year this ditch is dry but holds an integral part in water management where field drains and springs lead to ditches then water ultimately drains to the River Brock then River Wyre. Barn Field contains a mixture of perennial ryegrasses, timothy and festulolium. These grass species provide a first early bite for newly lambed sheep. Go through the gate to enter Basin Field.

## BASIN FIELD

Continue under the fence line (to your right) and a newly laid hedgerow. Ancient hedgerows can be found across the estates and probably date back to the Bronze Age with field divisions at Lee Farm typical of the Government Enclosure Act enabling pastoral farming. A hedgerow management plan is in place to restore and maintain these hedges to provide valuable wildlife habitats and possibly reinstate the pastoral system that typically provided paddock grazing systems for sheep and cattle. Treasures of the bronze age (eg spear heads) have been detected in Basin Field which indicates that this land has been occupied for thousands of years.

## THE KINGS DRIVE

At the end of the field the Queens Drive is landscaped with an avenue of trees and provides vehicular access between Lee and Lodge Farm. Turn right towards Lodge Farm. To the left is an old stone pedestrian bridge connecting footpaths between the two farms. Obviously now not in use it is still a lovely archaeological feature. The fields to your left, edged with parkland trees, provide species rich pastures with some areas of wetland. Sightings of swallow, skylark, mallards and song thrush can be found here as well as a good population of hares and hunting areas for barn owls and sparrow hawks. Trees of mixed species occupy the last field. Eventually these will provide shade and shelter for livestock reducing exposure to extreme weather conditions. Trees also reduce soil erosion, improve soil drainage, and create a diverse habitat for wildlife. Back over the old river brock the farm & countryside trail ends back at the dairy unit.



Information Point

**Download the Merlin ID App**  
on your smart phone  
and identify the bird  
songs on the farm!

