

Sherborne Office

The Farm Consultancy Group

The Farm Consultancy Group
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Curriculum Vitae

Gerard Finnan, B.AgrSc (Hons)

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E-mail: gerardfinnan@fcgagric.com

Gerard Finnan has 20 years experience as a farm management consultant and is partner in the Farm Consultancy Group. He specialises in providing financial and technical advice to dairy and mixed farming businesses, and focuses particularly on strategic planning for business development or restructuring.

He provides a wide range of services in the Somerset, Dorset, and West Wilts to predominantly farming clients. He specializes in the following areas

- Full farm business consultancy to farming and non-farming clients
- Technical and specialist livestock and grazing advice
- All government scheme grant advice and applications
- Whole Farm Management Contract (including overseas)
- Job Recruitment for Farmers
- Planning Appraisals, Rent Tenders

Curriculum Vitae

James Shenton

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James has spent over 18 years in farm consultancy since graduating from Seale Hayne with a B.Sc (Hons) in Agriculture. He is based in the Sherborne office and works throughout the South West.

He specialises in dairy nutrition in both high yield herds and grass based systems. Extension consulting is also a speciality with James being experienced in dairy systems from the EU and Australasia and Africa. He is F.A.C.T.S qualified and also advises on soil management and fertilisers.

James runs several of the practices discussion groups in the West Country, he has run discussion groups for the M.D.C now DairyCo .

James has been involved in setting up of many of the contract farming enterprises that are run from practice.

James works very closely with many of the veterinary practices in the region and believes in a team approach to improve fertility and animal health.

James also conducts expert witness work in legal cases.

Curriculum Vitae

Patrick Godwin, HND, BASIS Prof Reg, FACT

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Patrick has been working as a Farm Management Consultant for three years having begun his own advisory service in Sussex and East Hampshire before moving to Dorset to join The Farm Consultancy Group. Prior to that, Patrick spent 25 yrs as a farm and estate manager. He has experience managing high yielding dairy herds, intensive arable cropping as well as sheep and beef enterprises.

Patrick's experience also includes Countryside Stewardship Scheme development to fit alongside wildlife and Game conservation.

Patrick specialises in providing financial and technical advice to a wide range of farming and countryside businesses. A proportion of his time is spent on completion of Entry Level and Higher Level Environmental Stewardship applications and organic conversion schemes.

Patrick is BASIS, FACTS and BASIS SOIL and WATER, registered and is qualified to offer advice on soil and fertiliser issues. Patrick is the Sherborne offices specialist advisor on Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZ)

Curriculum Vitae

John Howe, HND Agric

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E-mail: johnhowe@fcgagric.com

John managed the 650 acre family farming partnership in East Sussex for 30years, with dairy, beef and arable enterprises. The entry of his son into the business has given him the opportunity to work with the Farm Consultancy Group joining in 2006, he retains an interest in the relocated family farm in Lincolnshire. He was also involved as director in agricultural cooperatives.

Areas of work include Complete Management of Farms. Farm Business Appraisals, Budgeting, Administration (SFEDI Accredited). Rent tenders. Environmental Stewardship including Farm Plans. Single Payment Schemes. John also runs the dairy and arable farm that FCC contract manage near Sherborne. John is qualified to offer REG (Grant Funded Consultancy) one to one consultancy and runs various discussion groups.

Curriculum Vitae

Louise Anderson, BA (Hons)

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E-mail: louiseanderson@fcgagric.com

Louise has been working as a business secretary for over four years, she manages Sherborne Office and also runs the bureau accounts system.

She is qualified in manual bookkeeping and SAGE.

Her daily role includes customer care, account management, monthly and quarterly VAT, petty cash, payroll, preparing year ends for management purposes and credit control. Louise is studying for a Diploma in small business finance.

Her background in design is also of great benefit as she designs both advertising and brochures for the group and for clients .

Curriculum Vitae

Sue Gulliford, Farm Business Secretary

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Sue joined The Farm Consultancy Group in 2003 as a personal assistant and now provides a mobile secretarial service to a number of farming and non-farming clients. This includes:

- VAT returns
- Management accounts
- Payroll
- Cattle passport application
- Movement records
- Farm Assurance records

Sue has a practical background in dairy farming and is currently studying for an IAB diploma in Small Business Finance. She is also involved with training new FCG accounts package users.

She enjoys working in FCG and her aim is to provide an excellent service to our clients providing accurate information to enable them to make informed management decisions.

Curriculum Vitae

Liz Tabor, Farm Business Secretary

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Tel 01935 850093
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Liz joined The Farm Consultancy Group in 2009 as a Farm business secretary, she has a background in family dairy farming and has an excellent understanding of the industry.

Liz can help with all of the following:

- VAT returns
- Management accounts
- Payroll
- Cattle passport application
- Movement records
- Farm Assurance records

Liz sees it as a challenge to keep our clients organized and ensure they have the best possible information to make decisions on.