

# OF&G



ofgorganic.org

## National Organic Combinable Crops

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# Event Guide

Shimpling Park Farm

Shimpling, Bury St Edmunds IP29 4HY

6 July 2021

Triodos  Bank

 **ORGANIC**  
RESEARCH CENTRE

 **NFU**

 **OASIS**  
Organic Advice, Support  
and Information Service

 **organic**  
arable

AGRICULTURE  
SUSTAINABLE PRACTICAL FARMING

**Carter Jonas**

 **OTB**  
ORGANIC TRADE BOARD

 **WOODLAND**  
TRUST

# Introduction by our host - John Pawsey

I am a fourth-generation farmer, farming 650 hectares of arable land and a run a flock of 1000 New Zealand Romney sheep.

We also farm an additional 950 hectares as Farm Management Contracts.

All the land and livestock are managed organically with the farm starting organic conversion in 1999.

The soil is predominately hanslope series clay which is generally noted for it's ability to retain nutrients and to release it's own potash. All work on the farm is retained in-house apart from harvesting, hedge cutting and building repairs.

The six-year rotation with a two year ley, a winter cereal, a spring cereal, winter beans finishing with a final spring cereal crop which is under-sown.

Diversion enterprises on the farm currently include an OHLS environmental scheme which runs until 2023, industrial and domestic lets, a photovoltaic installation and two wood-chip boilers which are fuelled by our own woodland.

The industrial and domestic lets are managed by my wife Alice with building help from Peter Rix who is also one of our contract farmers. Alice also designs and runs all our school visits which usually are in excess of 25 visits a year.

Alice and I have three children, Lilly, Rufus and Auriel

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We would also like to thank our suppliers:

- Weatherfield Ltd for providing the marquee, barn lining, carpets and other equipment

[www.weatherfield-marquees.co.uk](http://www.weatherfield-marquees.co.uk)

- Anglia Elite Banqueting Hire Ltd for chairs, tables crockery, cutlery and catering equipment

[www.angliaelite.co.uk](http://www.angliaelite.co.uk)

- Wakelyns Farm Bakery and friends for preparing and serving all refreshments (food and drink)

[www.wakelyns.co.uk/bakery/](http://www.wakelyns.co.uk/bakery/)

- Hawk Audio Visual for providing PA system and projection and media recording and technical support

[www.hawkav.co.uk/](http://www.hawkav.co.uk/)

- Gavin Dickson - for photography

# Timetable

<b>9.30</b>	Site opens	
<b>10.50</b>	Welcome to OF&G NOCC21	Roger Kerr - OF&G CEO
<b>11.00</b>	Today's Proceedings	Charlotte Smith
<b>11.10</b>	Food from the Farm - Today's Menu	Henrietta Inman - Bakery@ Wakelyns
<b>11.25</b>	Organic Trade Board - Market Update	Annie Seeley
<b>11.40</b>	Session One	Mark Russell - Carter Jonas Economics the Landowner's perspective; Organics, Tenancies and New Farm Payment Schemes
<b>12.00</b>	Session Two	Dr Ambrogio Constanzo - Organic Research Centre LiveWheat - Farm-based organic wheat variety trials network
<b>12.20</b>	Q & A	<b>The Panel:</b> John Pawsey (host farmer) Sue Walker - Triodos Bank with Richard Gantlett (farmer) Josiah Meldrum - Hodemdods Mark Russell - Carter Jonas Ambrogio Constanzo - ORC Janet Hughes - Defra
<b>12.50</b>	Introduction to our Farm and to the Farm Walk	John Pawsey - NOCC21 Host
<b>13.10</b>	Lunch	
<b>1400</b>	Farm Walk 1. Seed Breeding 2. Soil Health Score Cards 3. Agroforestry 4. Machinery	Ambrogio (ORC) & Nick Fradgley (NIAB) Liz Stockdale (NIAB) Jonny Ball (The Woodland Trust) John Pawsey
<b>15.45</b>	Refreshments and Close	

# Contributor's Biographies

## ROGER KERR - OF&G CEO

I come from a farming background and have worked in the organic food sector within both agriculture and food production industry for the last 22 years. I am CEO of Organic Farmers & Growers (OF&G).

I am also Chair of the UK Organic Certifiers Group, UK representative on the IFOAM EU Council, a Trustee of the Organic Research Centre, a Director of the Organic Trade Board, and a Director of the Pasture for Life Association.

## CHARLOTTE SMITH

Charlotte Smith grew up in rural Leicestershire and started out as a news reporter. She now has numerous roles - the presenter of BBC Radio 4's Farming Today, a Countryfile presenter and conference host.

## JOHN PAWSEY - FARMER & NOCC 21 HOST

I am a fourth-generation farmer, farming 650 hectares of arable land and a run a flock of 1000 New Zealand Romney sheep. We also farm an additional 950 hectares as Farm Management Contracts. All the land and livestock are managed organically with the farm starting organic conversion in 1999.

## MARK RUSSELL - CARTER JONAS

Mark is a Land Agent working across East Anglia, his day to day roles cover Professional advice to Farmers and Landowners together with Agency work. This often includes valuation, diversification, succession and tax planning. On a National basis Mark heads up Carter Jonas thinking on Natural Capital with a focus on monetising the opportunities for clients including Carbon Trading and Biodiversity Net Gain.

## DR ELIZABETH STOCKDALE - NIAB

Dr Stockdale has been working in collaboration with farmers to investigate soil health and develop tools to help measure soil health and to support improved soil management and currently leads the five-year, £1 million, Soil Biology and Soil Health Partnership, funded by AHDB and the British Beet Research Organisation (BBRO), which will bring together the best available research and practical approaches to tackle soil biology and soil health on-farm.

## JANET HUGHES - DEFRA

Janet is Programme Director for Defra's Future Farming and Countryside Programme – the team that's responsible for transforming the way we support and regulate farming and the countryside in England. Over the next 7 years, the programme will be closing down existing schemes and rules and replacing them with Environmental Land Management, grant support, innovation, R&D support and a new approach to regulation and enforcement. Janet's job is to make sure the programme delivers all this successfully and in a way that works for farmers and achieves the intended outcomes.

## ANNIE SEELEY - ORGANIC TRADE BOARD

The Organic Trade Board (OTB) started in 2009 with the clear vision to make organic an everyday choice, forever. We are an independent, membership-funded organisation, with one purpose: bring the efforts of the UK organic industry together to collectively raise awareness and grow sales for organic.

### **JONNY BALL - THE WOODLAND TRUST**

I am an outreach advisor for the Woodland Trust. I talk to farmers, landowners, local authorities and other groups about tree planting providing advice and help with sourcing funding. This can include woodland creation, agroforestry and the establishment of trees outside of woodlands such as hedgerows.

### **NICK FRADGLEY - NIAB**

Nick's current work at NIAB applies quantitative population genetics approaches to develop tools and resources enabling wheat breeding for improved crop resilience and end-use quality. Previously to NIAB, he worked for The Organic Research Centre, based at Wakelyns Agroforestry, where his work included evaluating the YQ population, organic plant breeding and conservation agriculture.

### **SUE WALKER - TRIODOS BANK**

Sue Walker is a relationship manager at Triodos Bank, who joined the organisation in 2014 to work with organic farmers. Specialising in agricultural banking, her customers range from organic dairy farmers to horticulturalists and mixed farming enterprises that focus on green tourism and the environment. She's from a dairy farming background and is passionate about sustainable farming practices, biodiversity and organic food production.

### **RICHARD GANTLETT - FARMER**

Richard Gantlett farms at Yatesbury in Wiltshire, on silty clay loam over lower chalk soils. Nature shares the land whilst producing cereals and beef.

A healthy living soil is the focus of the whole farm organism.

### **DR AMBROGIO COSTANZO**

Dr Ambrogio Costanzo, Head of Crops and Deputy Head of Research at the Organic Research Centre. Agricultural scientist specializing in agroecology, mostly focusing on arable cropping systems, with experience of liaising with farmers in participatory approaches, including tailored statistical methods. His first agro-ecological experience was to try to understand and improve silvo-arable systems in sub-Saharan Africa with local communities, as an MSc student. As a PhD and Post-Doc student he worked diversify organic arable cropping systems, including e.g. the use of populations instead of pure line varieties and of living mulches in wheat. Currently in his sixth year at ORC, he is coordinating the "LiveWheat" collective experiment on field-scale wheat varieties with British organic and low-input farmers.

### **JOSIAH MELDRUM - HODMEDODS**

Josiah Meldrum is co-founder of Hodmedod, a Suffolk company whose aim is to encourage us to grow and eat a wider range of British grown pulses, grains and seeds – creating healthier and more diverse diets and farming systems. Working with farmers Hodmedod has pioneered 'new' crops for the UK, such as lentils and revived long-forgotten staples, like naked barley, central this has been finding engaged markets to support primary production. This enables change by encouraging the creation of more complex rotations, through more direct routes to market, and ultimately by adding economic and agroecological value.

# Trade Stands and Supporters

## OF&G

OF&G was the first organisation approved by the Government to inspect and licence organic food and farming in the UK and certify more than half of all UK organic land.

[www.ofgorganic.org](http://www.ofgorganic.org)

## TRIODOS BANK

Triodos Bank UK is a leading sustainable bank. We only lend to organisations who make a positive social, cultural or environmental impact, and we've been supporting the organic farming sector for over 25 years in the UK.

[www.triodos.co.uk](http://www.triodos.co.uk)

## THE WOODLAND TRUST

Advice and support for woodland creation

[www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk)

## ORGANIC ARABLE

The UK's only wholly-organic grain business. Set up and run by farmers for the benefit of the UK organic arable producer.

[www.organicarable.co.uk](http://www.organicarable.co.uk)

## THE BRITISH QUINOA COMPANY

The British Quinoa Company are the UK's largest producer of quinoa grains, and aim to increase domestic organic quinoa production.

[www.britishquinoa.co.uk](http://www.britishquinoa.co.uk)

## GARFORD FARM MACHINERY

Garford manufacture manual & robotic mechanical weed control products; Robocrop Precision Guided Hoes & InRow Weeders. Along with hooded sprayers & Weedfoil Wipers.

[www.garford.com](http://www.garford.com)

## INNOVATIVE FARMERS

Innovative Farmers is a network of progressive farmers, growers, researchers and advisors; working together to tackle the challenges which farming faces.

[www.innovativefarmers.org](http://www.innovativefarmers.org)

## ORGANIC RESEARCH CENTRE

The UK's leading independent research centre for organic/agroecological food productions and land management system.

[www.organicresearchcentre.com](http://www.organicresearchcentre.com)

## ORIGIN FERTILISERS

A national manufacturer with three local sites stocking a range of organic fertilisers.

[www.originfertilisers.co.uk/our-range/organic-fertilisers/](http://www.originfertilisers.co.uk/our-range/organic-fertilisers/)

## BASIS

**BASIS** is an independent organisation committed to raising professional standards across land management and food production by supporting people and businesses with our industry leading qualifications, professional registers and auditing schemes.

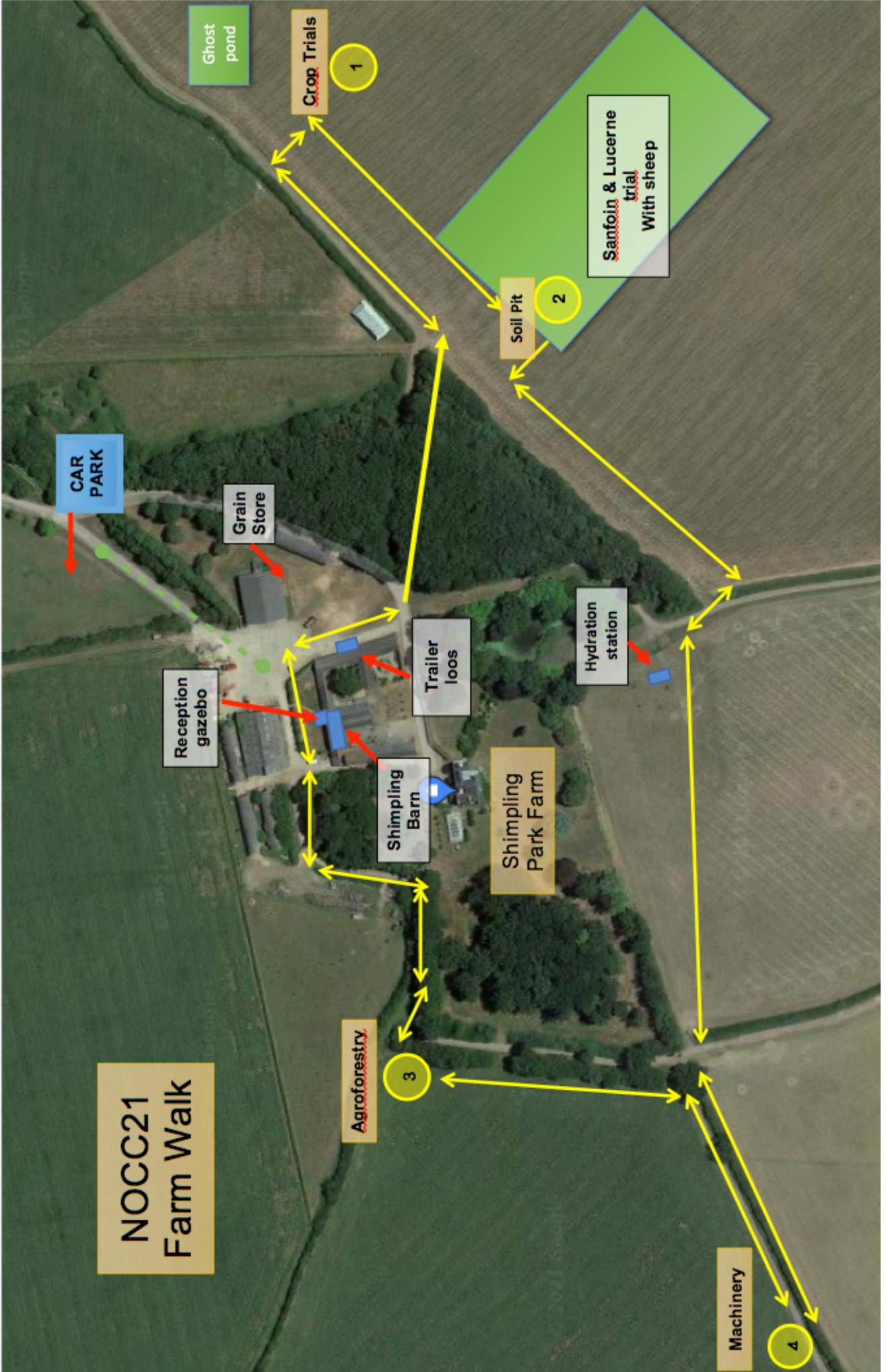
Over the past 40 years, **BASIS** has expanded its remit from specialising in the pesticide, fertiliser and allied industries to encompass the amenity, industrial, public health, food production and plant nutrition sectors.

[www.basis-reg.co.uk](http://www.basis-reg.co.uk)

## OASIS

**OASIS** - free advice and support for organic farmers

[www.organicinfo.org.uk](http://www.organicinfo.org.uk)



# NOCC21 Farm Walk

Ghost pond

Crop Trials 1

Sanfoin & Lucerne trial With sheep

Soil Pit 2

CAR PARK

Grain Store

Reception gazebo

Trailer loos

Hydration station

Shimpling Barn

Shimpling Park Farm

Agroforestry 3

Machinery 4