



WALLACE HENDRIE NFST BOARD MEMBER

Wallace Hendrie began his agricultural education with a HND in Agriculture at Auchencruive where he received the Dairy Student of the Year Award 1991. He got carried away with Young Farmers fulfilling various roles in Ayrshire YFC and within the West Region, together with all the associated trips abroad.

Throughout this period Wallace worked on the home farms - comprising 500ha with 350 dairy cows – being involved with cattle dealing in dairy and cast cows, and beef finishing.

With a father, a brother and three uncles in the business, Wallace decided things were getting a bit crowded. So in 1995, he looked further afield and achieved the distinction of becoming the youngest Nuffield Trehane Scholar. From that point on, “life has never been quite the same”.

Wallace looked at succession of the family business in USA, New Zealand and Australia which opened his eyes to a whole realm of possibilities. These possibilities are now refreshed annually with his spring “breaks” in the company Nuffield Dairy Group, which Wallace now chairs.

Wallace came home from his Nuffield Scholarship to the BSE crisis which changed the way his cattle dealing and dairy business operated. He pushed through a rationalisation of the dairy and increased the beef enterprise, adding value to the cattle dealing. This culminated in a diversification into 760ha of hill land with 600 ewes to expand the farm’s land base. The emphasis is currently on dairy expansion with 320-autumn and 210-spring block calving herds run on a forage based system.

Wallace is involved with the SNFU locally as well as nationally and sits on the ‘Environment and Land Use Committee’.

In the middle of all the above, Wallace was married to Isla. Despite trying for a “wee girl”, they have a family of four boys - Robert, Alexander, David and Logan. “That’ll be third time lucky then!”