



UPDATE



WE DID IT!..

37 Days...3720 miles...617 riders...NO accidents

The GAFT cycle relay reached its finishing point when it arrived at Agriculture House, the NFU Headquarters at Stoneleigh on 31st July. The final leg from Stratford-upon-Avon was ridden by cyclists from a number of previous participating companies from around the country as well as some of the organisers

Having travelled every mile of the relay, admittedly while driving the support vehicle, Richard Cooksley who is one of the organisers says the relay has been a huge success. "We have exceeded all our expectations," he comments. "We have secured fantastic support from the grain and feed trade, have travelled the length and breadth of the UK raising the profile of FCN, and have involved a huge number of riders with no accidents or injuries along the way.

"Most importantly we have raised a substantial sum to help FCN. The justgiving total stands at close to £40,000 and will increase significantly as outstanding donations come in."

Welcoming the riders, NFU President Minette Batters said: "This relay has been a fantastic achievement, successfully raising the profile of FCN as well as generating a significant sum to help fund FCN's essential work.

"At a time when farming is facing considerable pressure and uncertainty, the supply trade has shown enormous commitment with riders from 75 companies visiting 170 sites around the UK and travelling a mileage equivalent to cycling from London to Kabul or completing one and threequarter Tours de France!

"As an industry, farmers can be justifiably proud and grateful for the on-going support and commitment of the Grain and Feed Trade, something that will be ever more important in the weeks and years to come."

Charles Smith, Chief Executive of FCN, rode the last leg of the relay and comments: "We are so grateful to everyone who has been involved with the GAFT bike ride and dedicated their time and energy to supporting the farming community. It's been amazing to

see so many people come together and take part in this incredible challenge over the past six weeks.

"The money raised will go a long way towards helping us to provide practical and pastoral support to those farmers and farming families who are in desperate need. But perhaps the even greater benefit has been the amazing amount of publicity generated which will surely have raised awareness of FCN's availability to help those in need.

"The way in which the grain and feed trade has galvanised its support behind FCN is truly wonderful, something which, I am sure, will benefit the industry for years to come. I would like to thank each and every participant who has helped make this happen."

It's still not too late to donate, go to www.gaft2018.uk/home



Minette Batters welcomed some of the riders at the end of the 3700 marathon cycle relay

Photo NFU





How far we've come. - 3.715 MILES

week 1	week 2	week 3	week 4	week 5	week 6	week 7
453 miles	597 miles	561 miles	745 miles	546 miles	674 miles	139 miles
 Total miles	1,050 miles	1,611 miles	2,356 miles	2,902 miles	3576 miles	3,720 miles



There's always time for lunch!



ABP set off



DE lacy handover to Biotal



FCN Cycle Event HQ



Charles Smith CEO of FCN hands the relay baton to NFU President Minette Batters

we rode...
3720
miles

Just giving

Please continue to encourage donations at [justgiving.com/fundraising/GAFT](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/GAFT)

FCN | THE FARMING
COMMUNITY
NETWORK