

## Chairman's Annual Report 2017

### Northern District Management

Each month on a Wednesday evening the Management Committee has meetings at three different venues; Hundith Hill, Cockermouth, Penrith Rugby Club and here in this room at Greenhill, Wigton. I have had the privilege of chairing these meetings, where decisions about the District are made including judges, stewards and other arrangements for competitions, as well as discussing sporting and social events. Young Farmers is run by its members for its members and it is at these meetings that the members get to have their say on issues, give their suggestions about events and relay messages between the members in all clubs. Attendance at these meetings has been good, and the addition of club reports at the end of each meeting makes the meeting worthwhile and gives an insight into what each club has been up to. It would be nice however to see more of the Northern District clubs present at some of the County meetings.

### Competitions

The Northern District as always has had a busy competitions calendar. The standard throughout is amazing which has led to good results at County, Area and National level.

The year began with the Entertainments competition at the Carnegie Theatre, Workington. What an entertaining night we had, watching the two clubs that took part and a massive well done to Raughton Head who took their Entertainments all the way to Torquay for the National Finals where they finished fourth, but should have won in my opinion.

Teams competed in many different speaking competitions including; Junior Reading, Junior Public Speaking, Senior Braintrust, Senior After Dinner Speaking and Inter Just a Minute! The high standard of those competing really is something to be proud of. It has been good to see clubs that don't normally enter many of these competitions having a go for the first time and gaining valuable experience to take forward, and just sometimes surprising themselves! Whether you are placed first or last, it's all experience and it's never as scary the second-time round!

Northern Area Weekend was held at Mannor Church School, Nether Poppleton, York. Cumbria YFC put forward three teams, which meant a massive amount of work behind the scenes at County Office organising parental consent forms and making sure everyone knows where they are meant to be, we are very thankful for that! What a brilliant weekend we had with wonderful results over the weekend with Raughton Head winning the Entertainments, and winning the Football with Skelton closely behind them in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The Cheerleading competition saw the Northern District take a clean sweep with Drigg taking 1<sup>st</sup>, Wigton 2<sup>nd</sup> and Carlisle 3<sup>rd</sup>. Caldbeck also took the honours in the Street Dancing competition as well. What a fantastic weekend with Cumbria A coming 1<sup>st</sup> overall and Cumbria B 2<sup>nd</sup>. It really does show we are simply the best in the North!

It was brilliant to see 4 Northern District teams completing in 3 different National Finals in Torquay. Raughton Head performing in the National Entertainments Finals with their performance of Medical Mayhem and Megan Gibson picking up the Best Actress award. Well done Wigton and Drigg YFC competing in the National Cheerleading finals finishing a brilliant 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place respectively. Also, massive well done to Caldbeck YFC competing in the National Street Dance Final where they finished in an amazing 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Also, huge congratulations to Christina Coulthard, County Chairman who was also awarded the Sidney Fawcett Trophy for the most meaningful contribution to the NFYFC AGM with her speech proposing Frank Chester. Well done to all the members, you certainly did the Northern District Proud!

A massive well done must also be given to all our members that have competed at all other National finals. From Competitions Weekend at Stafford to TOW at Tenbury Wells. It's fantastic to have the National Football champions in the Northern District, well done Skelton!



### Field Day

This year, the field day was on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017. This was hosted by kind permission of the Lee family at Langrigg farm and was organised by Daniel Parkin as Chairman and Jess Sewell as Secretary.

It was a brilliant day, even if a little cold at times! It was a day to be remembered, the standard of competition was extraordinary with people taking part in a wide range of different tasks from tractor driving to sheep shearing, flower arranging to cake icing and junior pedal tractor handling, to the very competitive Tug of War. The day was well organised, and as far as I remember everything ran smoothly and to time or YF time anyways! I would like to congratulate Caldbeck on triumphing once again and to all the other clubs for battling hard and spreading the points and trophies out. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who was involved in helping make the day a success. The work that goes into organising a field day is massive, whether you were a judge, steward, stock and equipment supplier, competitor, parent, advisory member. The day wouldn't happen without your help. Last but not least the members who support and compete in and make the field day so worthwhile. THANK YOU!

The night doo was also a fantastic spectacle, with Sneaky Finch blasting out the tunes and a massive turn out of members. Thank you again to the organising committee and all the bar staff.

I must also say best of luck to the forthcoming Field Day Committee chaired by Andrew Metcalfe with Emma Blaylock and Abigail Graham as joint Secretaries.

Northern Area Field Day was hosted by County Durham, in June. It was an awful wet morning but luckily faired up later in the day. Yet again Cumbria excelled in many classes in the industrial, stock judging and field events, especially 'Greysouthen girls Tug of War team who put in a massive effort and were placed second, meaning they qualified for the National Finals! Well done to all those that make the effort to travel to these events and show just how strong Cumbria are. It was an incredibly tight result and unfortunately Cumbria A were placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall with Cumbria B placed 4<sup>th</sup>. Still a brilliant result considering how close it was and having two teams so well placed.

### Social

The summer District dance or now better known as end of harvest social was once again held at Welton Village hall. The dance wasn't as busy as the year previous due to bad weather, but the bar somehow seemed busier. Everyone who attended had a fantastic night. It made an excellent profit to go towards helping run the District. A big thank you must go to door stewards, my YF team who ran the bar and Laura and Gillian Potts for all their help getting drink and setting up and tidying up.

In November, we held the annual Christmas fancy dress party at The White Heather Hotel, Kirkbride. There was a fantastic turn out of members, almost 350 to be exact, with each club taking on a different theme, from cavemen/cavewomen to Pirates as well as Super Heroes. The bar was 6 deep all night and so nice to see so much support, big thank you must go to those who helped on the door.

### Membership

2007 – 17 Clubs 618 Members

2008 – 17 Clubs 670 Members

2009 – 16 Clubs 753 Members

2010 – 16 Clubs 781 Members

2011 – 16 Clubs 799 Members

2012 - 16 Clubs 794 Members

2013 - 15 Clubs 839 Members

2014 - 15 Clubs 896 Members

2015 – 15 Clubs 868 Members

2016 – 15 Clubs 974 Members



We are happy to announce an increase in membership and we must thank Senior members, Club Leaders and Advisory for all the work they put in to maintaining strong and busy clubs. Looks like we could break the 1000 mark in 2018.

### Acknowledgments

Now where to start, I would like to thank all club members for making me feel so welcome at your meetings and events as I have been touring the Northern District over the past 12 months. Even after a few hard and difficult nights I haven't heard a bad word said so thank you all. A big thank you must go to Hannah Addison, my Social and Competitions Secretary, for all the hard work she has done over the past 12 months, writing letters to and chasing judges and stewards for competitions, and often sorting my last-minute requests. To Emma Blaylock for writing minutes at all of the Management Meetings, making sure no detail is missed! To Lindsay Marrs, our Treasurer, and Lisa Bowe who continues to keep our books right. To Laura Graham, my Vice-Chairman, who has been a great help and support over the year, well most of the time, being there to discuss things and offer support where needed. Also stepping up to the mark when I have been unable to attend. I wish you, Laura, and your new President Matthew Burbury, the best of luck for the year ahead. I am sure you will have a fantastic and successful year, keep up the tradition of being better than the South! I would also like to wish Eamon Monaghan all the best as County Vice Chairman. Last but not least, to Amanda Place our, Northern District President, for travelling round the county to AGMs and events and I am sure the members have enjoyed getting to know her over the last couple of years.

To County Office; as many of you will know we have had changes in the office in the last 12 months. The transition went well, and we now have 3 members of staff with Joanne staying in charge. Many thanks must go to Joanne, Claire and Alison. You have always been there emailing, phoning or texting on a daily basis to make sure I am up to date with what is going on. I may now get chance to sort through my 3500 emails and get some memory space back on my phone. My life is going to be a little quieter without you! Thank you to you all, you keep the District running smoothly. Also, I must mention Anne, although she has moved on to pastures new she was always at the end of the phone like the team now and we wish her well.

Next, I must thank my club, Greysouthen YFC for supporting me over the year, and for also getting me to where I am today. Without joining the club and supporting me I wouldn't have made it to District Chairman. I apologise that I haven't been to as many meetings as I would have liked in the last 12 months, but it wasn't always possible. But it has being brilliant been able to continue doing the things I enjoy like TOW and stockjudging with you all.

We are nearly finished now but I must thank my family, thank you to Mum and Dad and sister Sarah, for putting up with me being out at least 4 nights a week or maybe 6 at various YFC meetings and competitions, and not really knowing which end of the District I was, for listening to me talk YFC endlessly, and for being so encouraging and supportive throughout my year as Chairman, without them behind me I could not have accepted the challenge!

Lastly by no means least, I would like to thank you the members for your constant support over the last year. It has been an honour to be your Chair for this last year I hope I have done you all proud. The team spirit and enthusiasm that the northern District has is second to none and I wish the District all the best in the forthcoming year.

Matthew Emmott  
Northern District Chairman

**NORTHERN DISTRICT OF THE CUMBRIA FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS**

**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>		<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>			<b>Income</b>		
Chairmans Expenses	425	400	Challenge Night	240	250
District Office Expenses	1,656	1,382	Less Expenses	<u>58</u>	<u>-</u>
Travel Expenses	1,224	451		182	250
Share of marquee	-	353	Entertainment/Drama	1,058	821
			Less Expenses	<u>710</u>	<u>643</u>
				348	178
			Field Day	30,813	28,796
			Less Expenses	<u>15,725</u>	<u>14,400</u>
				15,088	14,396
			Summer Dance	5,161	5,752
			Less Expenses	<u>1,978</u>	<u>1,845</u>
				3,183	3,907
			Xmas dance	1,736	1,214
			Less Expenses	<u>227</u>	<u>407</u>
				1,509	807
			District AGM	178	1,126
			Less expenses	<u>504</u>	<u>952</u>
				326	174
			Cumberland Show Bar	2,784	2,162
Staffing Costs	13,000	13,000	Donation	500	-
Net profit/ (loss)	7,176	6,609	HSBC Savings Interest	-	-
			Cumb Savings Interest	213	321
	<u>23,481</u>	<u>22,195</u>		<u>23,481</u>	<u>22,195</u>

**BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>		<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<b>Accumulated Fund</b>			<b>Current Assets</b>		
Balance brought forward	77,845	71,236	Cash In Hand	10	10
Add Excess of Income			Current Bank Account	62,039	64,636
Over Expenditure	7,176	6,609	HSBC Savings Account	87	87
			Cumb Savings Account	22,170	21,957
			Debtors	4,519	5,267
	<u>85,021</u>	<u>77,845</u>			
Education & Dev Fund	607	607	<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
	<u>85,628</u>	<u>78,452</u>	Creditors	- 3,197	- 13,505
				<u>85,628</u>	<u>78,452</u>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF THE CUMBRIA FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS**

I have examined the accounting records of the above organisation to the best of my ability, for the year to 30 September 2017. I confirm that the accounts produced are in agreement with the books and records provided by the Treasurer.

  
 Mrs H Little  
 17 January 2018