

# CARLISLE GYMNASTICS CLUB

## NEWSLETTER – ISSUE ONE 2002

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**Welcome to issue one 2002, of your Gym Club's newsletter.  
This is your newsletter and any contributions are welcome.**  
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### Message from the Chairman

#### **Is there anybody out there?**

People who know me will be aware that I have a passion for gymnastics at all levels. This passion started in 1964 when I took up my first teaching appointment at Lochinvar School in Longtown. It is a passion that remains resolute after 38 years of involvement in the sport at all levels. I take as much pleasure from watching a beginner managing to walk unaccompanied along the beam for the first time, to an international that can comfortably perform a double back dismount.

I believe that gymnastics is as essential to the curriculum for both primary and secondary schools as it is as a club and Olympic event. I believe that all aspects, - artistic, rhythmic, sports acrobatics, trampolining and aerobics have something to offer any young performer interested in gymnastics as a sport. There can be no better activity for teaching life skills and citizenship than gymnastics. Determination, dedication, application and commitment all form part of the regular vocabulary used to describe the characteristics demanded of the young performer. There are coaches, committee workers and performers in the Thomas Street building that demonstrate these qualities every day of every week. What a shame therefore that after at least twenty years of trying I have been unable to influence politicians, the education authority or city councillors to provide a suitable building with apparatus and equipment that would help us to 'grow' the sport and to compete at the highest level.

The nearest we have come to resolving this problem was the recent bid by St Martin's College to build a new facility for gymnastics and dance on their campus on the site of the old maternity hospital on Fusehill Street. This was to be our showcase project for use by rural and city schools and students during the day, and by the Carlisle Club in the evenings and at weekends. How sensible and how practical to work in a partnership that would ensure schools, higher education and the club could all benefit at different times of day. How sensible and practical to provide a building that would ensure teachers, students and coaches could all contribute to raising the profile of the sport.

I believe the people that have the power to advise on how to spend the new funding coming into the county, (£4.6 million for Sport and PE this year alone), have neither the vision or the knowledge of what Cumbria needs to raise standards and opportunities both in and beyond the school curriculum. How long must we wait for the separate partners, Education, City Council Leisure Services and the National Governing Bodies of Sport to realise there is value in working in partnership to achieve economies in effort, time and funding in meeting our common goals?

I am disappointed and that for my part I have been unsuccessful in my efforts to bring my vision into reality. However my passion remains, so I ask all readers; **"Is there anybody out there that can help us?"**

After yet another set back, I'm clinging to the words of Thomas Edison when he said: "Every wrong attempt discarded is another step forward."

This is a turning out to be a very long journey!!!

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 \* **HELP!!!!** \*  
 \* \*  
 \* **Your Social Sub-Committee** \*  
 \* **needs you, yes you.** \*  
 \* \*  
 \* **If you would like to join the Social** \*  
 \* **committee, have any ideas about** \*  
 \* **raising funds for the club, or can** \*  
 \* **offer help at any fundraising** \*  
 \* **events, please contact Jackie Scott** \*  
 \* **on Carlisle 529884, or speak to one** \*  
 \* **of the coaches, as Howard so rightly** \*  
 \* **said, is there anyone out there.** \*  
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**RESULTS 2002 – to date**

The gymnasts in the club compete at various levels/competitions throughout the year, the following is a list of the medals won so far this year (we will be keeping you up to date with all the gymnasts results in later newsletters).

CUMBRIA TWO PIECE NOVICE – Barrow February 2002

Under 8

- Beam – 1<sup>st</sup> Emily Bliss, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lauren Dixon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Laura Vevers
- Bars – 1<sup>st</sup> Charlotte Wordsworth, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kate Murrant, 3<sup>rd</sup> Georgina Harris
- Vault – 1<sup>st</sup> Lauren Dixon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Georgina Harris, 3<sup>rd</sup> Charlotte Wordsworth
- Floor – 2<sup>nd</sup> Kate Murrant, 3<sup>rd</sup> Laura Vevers

Under 10

- Bars – 1<sup>st</sup> Helen Gill - Vault – 1<sup>st</sup> Helen Gill, 2<sup>nd</sup> Emma Birt, 3<sup>rd</sup> Emma Gait

Under 13

- Beam – 3<sup>rd</sup> Megan Bailey - Bars – 1<sup>st</sup> Chrissie Hedley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bethan Griffiths –
- Vault – 2<sup>nd</sup> Bethan Griffiths - Floor – 2<sup>nd</sup> Megan Bailey

GRADES – Newcastle March 2002

- Grade 6 team 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Grade 5 team 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Grade 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Amy Drinkall }  
 Grade 2 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Megan Pattison }      Qualified for Club Grades – National Finals
  - Grade 1 – 1<sup>st</sup> Angela Minervini }
- All the gymnasts passed their grades.

Level 4

- 4<sup>th</sup> Laura Bicknell, 5<sup>th</sup> Chloe Dixon. – Qualified for Level 4 Nationals (Chloe reserve)

CUMBRIA FOUR PIECE NOVICE – Carlisle April 2002

Under 10

1<sup>st</sup> Nicola Hinde, 2<sup>nd</sup> Charlotte Wordsworth, 3<sup>rd</sup> Georgina Harris

Over 10

1<sup>st</sup> Chrissie Hedley

NEWCASTLE REGIONAL FOUR PIECE – June 2002

Under 8

Carlisle Team 3<sup>rd</sup>

10 & Under

1<sup>st</sup> Laura Bicknell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nicola Hinde

Carlisle Team 1<sup>st</sup>

11 & Over

3<sup>rd</sup> Sophie Townsend

Carlisle Team 1st

AS YOU CAN SEE WE HAVE HAD A VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR TO DATE - CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE GIRLS (AND THE COACHES) ON THEIR SUCCESSES AND ALSO TO ALL THOSE WHO TOOK PART IN COMPETITIONS BUT WERE NOT SUCCESSFUL IN GAINING ANY MEDALS – IT REALLY IS THE TAKING PART THAT MATTERS.

As you can see from the above results three of the club's gymnasts were successful in qualifying to represent the North of England in the Club Grades National Finals, which were held in Kettering in April of this year. The girls, Angels Minervini, Megan Pattison and Amy Drinkall have very kindly for us written about their feelings when they attended this event.

Travelling to Kettering I was very excited and happy, looking forward to staying in a Travel Lodge and going out for dinner!! However on Sunday my mood changed, I was really nervous but keen to see the different range of leotards!! When we marched on they played the National Anthem, which made me feel really proud. Wow!! The floor was actually springy and there were no cobwebs on the ceiling!! My nerves soon wore off when I got into the competition and overall I was pleased with how I did, but a bit disappointed with my final position. (36<sup>th</sup> out of **XX**).  
Angela.

On the Thursday before leaving for Kettering, I walked into the changing room door and stubbed my toe but told nobody!! On Friday we travelled down and I told my Mum, she went mad!! When we got to Kettering Leisure Village I was really excited but also nervous. As I watched the first round I got myself prepared and sat with the

people in the Northern team. I warmed up on each piece and then we were called into a hall, our reserve gymnast held our banner with North of England on it, as I waited for the march on music to begin, butterflies began to come into my stomach, but once I got started they soon went away. I think I did well and it paid off when the North team came in third. When it was announced we all stood in shock, my Mum screamed, Julie cried and immediately phoned Maria. This was the second time I have competed in this event and came 7<sup>th</sup> overall, out of 44, (the same position as last time).

Megan.

Mum, Megan, Carol and I travelled to Kettering on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April, yippee a day off school. It took 5 ½ hours to get there (would have been less, but we went round some of the roundabouts more than once!!!), eventually we found the Travel Lodge. I slept quite well considering how nervous I felt. On Saturday morning I was even more nervous, we had breakfast at Tesco's and then went on to the gym. When we were called onto the floor to warm up I started to calm down. We warmed up on each piece and then started to compete. I was first on beam and I stayed on throughout my routine, I was very pleased with my performance. I then went on to vault then floor and finally on to bars. My bar routine went well except for my dismount. In the end I came 1<sup>st</sup> out of the Northern team and 27<sup>th</sup> (out of 47) overall. The next day we went to watch Angels and then it was time to go home.

Amy.

Thanks very much to the girls for these thoughts, and once again very well done to you all.

**Finally for your information, listed below are the names of the elected members of the Gymnastics Club committee:**

**Chairman – Howard Todd**  
**Vice-Chairman – Chris Berry**  
**Treasurer – Linda Berry**  
**Secretary – Jackie Hinde**  
**Membership Secretary – Pam Kelsall**  
**Social Chairman – Jackie Scott**  
**Chief Coach – Maria Sinclair**

Don't forget this is your newsletter, any items you would like included in future editions please advise one of the coaches.