

Great North Mascot Steeplechase raises £16K for charity

The popular race returned after intense anticipation throughout Yorkshire and plenty turned up to watch the spectacle unfold



Last weekend's Great North Mascot Steeplechase was a huge success for the organisers Yorkshire Federation of Young Farmers Clubs and healthcare charity Sue Ryder Care.

The event raised approximately thirteen thousand pounds for Sue Ryder Care and a further three thousand pounds for a wide range of other charities.

Sixty two mascots, from throughout the country, travelled to Wetherby to take part in the Sky bet sponsored race, running over the final furlong whilst hurdling five fences in

front of the 10,000 strong race day crowd.

The winner was 'Hound Dog' representing Bingley Harriers with 'Megumi Noodle Box' from the Wokon Noodle Bar, Leeds the runner-up.

In terms of professional mascot performances 'Darlo Dog' from Darlington FC was first home with 'Ciry Genr' completing a bad week for Bradford City by winning the prize for being the last home.

The prize for the mascot who raised the most money in sponsorship went to Michael Hall

representing the Coniston Club in the costume of Sue Ryder care's Sunny the Sunflower.

Michael raised £1,000 and his efforts such as Michaels that meant that this year's spectacular beat the £13,000 raised for charity in the inaugural Great North Mascot Steeplechase held in 2006.

Andrew Wood, fundraiser for Sue Ryder Care was delighted with how the event had worked out and thanked the Yorkshire Young Farmers Club and the mascots who had turned out and

raised so much in sponsorship. "Sue Ryder Care requires £8m each year just to care for our patients in Yorkshire alone and events like these are great fun and crucial in helping us to be able to continue our services."

Yorkshire's Young Farmers used the race to promote healthy eating and local produce and the winner of the Best Turned Out YFC made mascot was Tom Ogden of Worth Valley Young Farmers Club with Musky the Mushroom (a fun guy to be with).

Prizes were presented by Helen Swiers, President of Yorkshire Federation of Young



Farmers Clubs, Janine Bickerstaff, Northern Area Fundraising Manager for Sue Ryder Care and Nick Miles alias Jimmy King from Emmerdale.

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With summer seemingly coming early this year there is no better time to enjoy the sun in the traditional quaint English countryside. Graythwaite Manor Hotel is the ideal location to bask in the sun or stroll through acres of verdant countryside.

The view from the country house hotel is salubrious as it stands over-looking Morecambe Bay.

Opened in 1937 as a family run hotel Graythwaite has maintained its period charm, and friendly atmosphere whilst developing with the times.

Guests are free to enjoy multi-award winning gardens, or spend the day relaxing in one of four comfortable lounges. With numerous local attractions and beautiful walks around the Lake District National Park, North Lancashire and West Yorkshire regions, there is plenty to do for everyone all within a short distance.

Sub-tropical as well

as typically British plants provide the background to your stay and they are exploding with colour illuminated in the spring sun.

The interior is ornate and elegant, capturing the true art and beauty of the Victorian era. The décor and soft tones help to create a warm and relaxing ambience whilst the log-fire exudes heat, ideal for curling up for a read or casual drink.

Their restaurant produces some wonderfully appetising meals, produced with the highest standard of fresh ingredients to stir the taste buds.

The Garden room offers a light and airy view overlooking attractive gardens. It provides the right setting for functions of all kinds from wedding receptions and business meetings to all sorts of anniversaries and birthdays.

Graythwaite Manor Hotel is the ideal location to enjoy a relaxing stay in this years scintillating sun so why not take advantage of their fantastic competition.

PICKUP COMPETITION CORNER

Graythwaite are offering 3 days and 2 nights to one lucky winner and 2 consolation prizes of a one night stay with full B&B, who can answer the following question:

"How many years has the Manor House been trading?"

All answers need to be sent via post to

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Graythwaite Manor Hotel,
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