

Young Farmer of the Month

Name: Suzanne Pollock

Age: 24

Address: Wreay, near Carlisle
Work: assistant accountant at Paragon Vets, Dalston

Hobbies/Interest: I enjoy helping out on the family farm, especially at lambing time and also when we are silaging. I also enjoy going to the gym when I can find the time.

YFC club: I am a member of Raughton Head YFC where I have held the position of treasurer twice and also club secretary. I am Northern District field day secretary, which is to be held in June next year. At county level, I have been social and competitions secretary, organising judges and stewards for competitions and I was Northern Area treasurer in 2011.

Achievements in YFC: I helped to organise and completed a 174-mile Coast-to-Coast bike ride for our club in 2009 and raised £6,714.96 for two charities.

I have performed twice at the national finals of the entertainments competition at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, with Raughton Head YFC.

I was also AGM organiser for Cumbria in 2011, where I booked travel, accommodation and packages for 376 Cumbrian Young Farmers to go to Blackpool for the annual convention. Every year at our annual



field day, I compete in the efficiency with safety tractor driving, and also floral art and have competed at national on three occasions, with my flower arranging, this year being the latest at the Malvern Autumn Show.

Most recently I was secretary for Cumbria's 75th Anniversary committee and organised an anniversary dinner dance for 500 people at The Garden@Eden.

Why are you a YFC member? I joined YFC at the age of 11 to

meet new people and gain new skills and I haven't looked back. The YFC movement encourages young people to get involved in competitions and activities, some of which I would never have thought I would do. I have gained confidence in speaking competitions and gained life skills. YFC has a great social side to it and you also get the opportunity to travel all over the UK to regional and national competitions. YFC is run by members for members

and I believe the more you put in, the more you get out.

Your view on the future of farming: I feel the farming community has been faced with many difficulties over recent years. The weather proved to be a major problem this year. However, I feel farming youngsters should be encouraged to get involved and with the dairy unit being installed at Newton Rigg College this is a great opportunity to promote farming.