

CUMBRIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

‘The fund gives the school confidence that less well-off families are supported’

Cumbria Community Foundation helps philanthropic individuals and businesses by managing their funds to put something back into their chosen community. Each month, we'll introduce you to a different fund and highlight how the money is helping people across the county. Businesses in Cumbria have a proud history of supporting local communities. Cumbria Community Foundation provides the practical support and advice needed to achieve this through a range of services tailored to match corporate aspirations and objectives with the needs of local charities, voluntary and community organisations.



Roger Smith meeting Northbank FC's U12 girls' team

Carlisle-based industrial supplies company Thomas Graham and Sons established a long-term fund in 2008, which is now worth almost £200,000.

Roger Smith, managing director, says: "As a Cumbrian business we wanted to support local community activities but were getting a lot of requests for help. We set up a fund which targets grants to young people and sport in the Carlisle area. We are confident that our money is going to the best projects. Working with the Foundation means we can support the causes that we care about without the hassle."

Their first grant was awarded to Carlisle's Northbank Football Club towards volunteer coaching courses, football strips and equipment.

Club secretary John Twentyman says: "Northbank FC has a thriving junior section from under-7s up to under-18s competing in the Longhorn Hardware Youth League. The funding enabled five volunteers to take a level

one football course, which contributed to the club being able to continue to provide qualified training and support to young people."

Thirteen community groups have so far been supported from the Thomas Graham Fund including Carlisle One World Centre (COWC), Dalston Scout Group, Carlisle Futsal Club and Copeland Rugby League Development Foundation.

Cumbria Community Foundation provides companies with effective mechanisms for giving back to the area. There are a variety of ways to channel charitable funds while retaining grant decision making and staff involvement.

If you would like to know how to apply for a grant or create a grant making fund, please visit the Foundation's website www.cumbriafoundation.org or call 01900 825760.

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