



## Annual General Meeting 2018

### Chair's Report

It has been another busy but successful year for York RA. Our society continues to be in the top 10% in the country by size, and our attendances continue to be strong with 20-30 members and guests at most meetings. We are also one of the few to manage an annual awards dinner and, while numbers attending have dropped in recent years, it is great that we still have this opportunity to get together and celebrate. Thank you to all of you who take the time to attend, as I know that you have busy lives.

We have seen progression within our young referees through the mentoring scheme and development groups. There are also those who continue to rise through the ranks – hot off the presses is the news that James Unwin has been promoted to Level 3 and Conor Ledgeway has been promoted to Level 4. These are two referees who have dedicated a lot of time to helping develop the York RA as active committee members, as well as putting in the work on the field of play, so I was delighted to hear this news.

We would still like to see more of our newly qualified referees at our monthly events and remaining part of the branch after their first year. Ideas on how we can help encourage this will be gratefully received by the Committee.

I would like to thank all of those on the committee who continue to volunteer their time to making York RA the success that it is. Ian, Jonny, John, James, Brandon, Dave, Paul, Brian, Conor, Tony, and Matt – thank you for your service.

Finally, I wanted to let you know that, assuming I am re-elected tonight, next year will be my final year as Chair and the position will be open in May 2019. I strongly believe that we need a regular turnover of ideas in the committee and particularly in this role (while noting that stability in some of the other positions is certainly no bad thing). Coupled with my growing personal and work commitments, it seems a good time for me to go. I encourage all of you to consider taking on a role within the committee and perhaps even taking on the chairmanship when the time is right - it is not as difficult as I might make it look!