

Chairman's Report 2018

I would like to begin my 4th and final Chairman's report as I have started each of my previous ones by thanking you, Executive Committee members, Marathon & End to End sub-committee members, various marshals and helpers at events and all club members. Without which there would be no Club.

Within that list are a number of individuals who I would like to single out. Always a dangerous thing to do when so many do so much for the Club. However, as I beat a hasty retreat I will take the risk and opportunity to thank:-

Mo Kelly, our Club Secretary, Membership Secretary, Race Walking League compiler, Marathon organiser and No Rest for the Wicked result co-ordinator and much more.

Neil Cushing, Treasurer, who has handled the Club's finances in a most professional, competent manner and will be missed by all on the Executive Committee as he too steps down at this meeting.

Tadhg O'Mahony and Phil Motley for the incredible work they do in organising the Marathon, a year on year success.

Angela Southern for her steering of all the facets that go into organising the End to End walk, yet another ever successful event.

Alan Postlerwaite who has overseen the points for the Road Running League for 20 years and has now decided to have a rest and pass on the job to someone else.

Ian Callister for organising the Fell Running League point system and who has recently taken on the mantle of Race Historian with fascinating insights into the race developments and records.

A short list but important that these people get the thanks they deserve. I hope that when the agenda item regarding the appreciation of sub-committee members comes to be discussed you keep in mind the work these individuals do.

We are foremost an Athletics' Club and we must not forget to praise all the members who have competed and found success on and off the island. Again I will court danger by mentioning Gail Griffiths and Bernie Johnson for all their achievements this year.

During 2018 I instigated a survey of Club Members and the results clearly gave the message that the Club should carry on as it is. So no doubt we will. However, a few suggestions from the survey will provide the Executive Committee with a few challenges.

All replies agreed that we should continue to publish a Newsletter but as yet have not found anyone to take on the role. I confess that two people did indicate an interest but I failed to follow up on this. Sorry!

Another was to develop Track & Field within the Club and with now having a 'star' Track & Field athlete as a member who just so happens to be the Athletic Development Officer the Club is ideally placed to progress this.

The Committee also has to consider maintaining interest in the Club competitions. Whether this is achieved by revising the qualification criteria for the Running and Walking League or by introducing new races over 20k or 5 miles, we will let them decide.

They may even wish to consider how best to celebrate the Club's 40th year of existence in 2020.

As I step down from the post of Chairman, I leave the Club in a very healthy position and with the continued guidance of the new Executive Committee there is no reason why this should not be continued.

So it is a fond farewell from me as Chairman. I have enjoyed my time on the Committee and have always been impressed by the expertise and willingness of you all. I am not disappearing without trace as I will continue to help, when I can, at events and am ever hopeful of being able to continue competing for a few more years to come.

Thank you

Terry Bates,

Chairman IOMVAC

18 February 2019