

RFRC Annual General Meeting

3rd May 2024 - 7.30pm

Wyvern Club

1. Apologies

Helen Needs, Sam Wharton, Michelle Saint, Pam Beattie

2. Mike Nicholls Award for inspiration (chosen by members' vote)

Scott Weetch was announced as the winner and his award was collected by Emma Perkins. The £100 prize will be donated equally to Love Musgrove and Stand Against Violence

3. George Hudson Award for contribution to the club (chosen by the committee)

Helen Phillips was announced as the winner.

4. Club Charity for 2023/24

The charity for 2023/24 will continue to be St. Margaret's Hospice. Joanna Hall made a short presentation updating the meeting on the work of the Hospice.

5. Treasurers Report

Opening balance for the year £12613.11, finished with £11480.60 in the bank before charity donations. The reduction is due to Herepath race expenses which were incurred in 2022/23 but not paid until 2023/24.

6. Chair's Report

See separate document below

7. Approval of Committee for 2023/24

- Simon Denson (chair), Joanna Gavins (vice chair), Peter Hall (secretary) and Michelle Saint (treasurer) were elected as club officers

- Robin Upton, Helen Needs, Sam Wharton, Sandra Moffat and Ben Timpson were re-elected as committee members
- Emma Greig was elected as a new committee member
- Lee Macklin volunteered to join the committee and he will be considered for co-option at the next committee meeting.

8. 2023 Club Championship

Joanna Carritt and Tom Dymott were the female and male winners.

9. Anniversary Update

Helen Phillips gave a short presentation on plans to celebrate the club's 20th anniversary.

10. RFRC 20 year Retrospective

Claire Loader gave a slide presentation covering the club events and personalities over the last twenty years

11. Upcoming Celebrations

Chris Manley outlined plans for an Anniversary/Christmas party to be held at Rumwell on 29th November.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed and a quiz (Quingo) and raffle were held.

Chair's Report

INTRO:

- Welcome to the 2024 Club AGM – in our 20th year (more of that later)
- Thanks for coming – you are what makes the club what it is!
- Start with special thanks to:
 - The committee – as always, especially Peter for the immense amount of administration he does
 - Groups leaders – so many groups now: Track/TRT/Wed/Weekend runs
 - Race directors – always a challenging and stressful thing, but especially over the last couple of years
 - Anniversary group – doing a fantastic job celebrating a really big milestone

- And not least – all the members who are here or couldn't make it tonight

SUMMARY:

- Another year of mixed emotions – with the loss of Scott which still hasn't sunk in for many, and with Adrian Edwards and James Lewes still very much in our minds.
- Please do join us for the Solstice Run in memory of them all – which will be on Saturday 22nd June (with thanks to Martin and everyone who gets involved)
- Member Numbers:
 - 355 (up 30 from last year)
 - 179 EA and 176 social (London marathon reminder)
 - Brand new members – 86
 - 58% female
 - Reminder to renew
- Achievements
 - So much more active over the past 12 months than during covid – some really good turnouts again – notably Exeter Half / Stoke Stampede / Cardiff Half (don't forget the European Superhalves) / Steaming to the Coast and of course The Grizzly – surely the muddiest one ever?
 - Race organisers definitely struggling but we are doing our bit – plenty of volunteering as well
 - Always forget some milestones, but ones which I have managed to remember are:
 - Andy Higham – finally...completed 15 of 15 National Parks, just in time for the new one to be announced
 - Peter has now reached 150 marathons and ultras, and just keeps on going!
 - Andy Burgess 100th marathon at Lakeland
 - We've also had quite a few marathon first timers this year – including Paula/Karen/Kirsti/Sherri/Isabelle. More to come for them I'm sure!
 - Track has had a really good year – lots of people even with the poor weather! Thank you Sandra and your track stars.

- Running Forever being taken literally continues to grow – with seemingly normal people signing up for ultras, 100ks, 100 milers and 24-hour races.
- At the other end of things, the walking group has really established itself and is now a weekly fixture with a growing set of regulars
- Probably the most exotic trip we've had is Helen Needs travelling to Tokyo for her 5th of 6th marathon majors. Just Boston to go to become the club's 3rd 6 star finisher!
- We had the 4th successful foreign trip (Florence/Porto/Maspalomas) in Malaga – a really good turnout for what is a wonderful city to visit, although the marathon route isn't the best.
- Next up is Verona in November – please get yourselves signed up – places still available in the race.
- Reminder that Giant's Head Marathon in Dorset is our local club marathon and 10k event this year – and it appears to be back on!
- Lastly, we now have a big turnout for the Dartmoor Discovery Ultra Marathon in memory of Scott. If you'd like to take part please join the waiting list on the Teignbridge Trotters site. Any RFRC runner is guaranteed a place.