

Chairman's Report 2021/22

Well last year was certainly better than the previous year but still with its challenges. Races were still being cancelled due to Covid or bad weather, but on a positive there was also races going ahead that haven't for two or three years.

Through all this we have still managed to gain over 90 new members in the last 12 months. Which is unbelievable and testament to what a great club we have and how welcome you make everyone feel.

We had two Reading Halfs, two Brightons, two Manchester Marathons, two Farnborough Halfs and an autumn London Marathon. And of course the return of Cross Country, which brought pleasure to many of us if not just for the buffet.

Over 150 PBs were achieved, over 140 events were ran in across some UK and far flung destinations - Barcelona, Paris, Seville, Berlin, Mexico, Scotland, Manchester, Brighton, Liverpool and also our legacy races Grizzly and Beachy Head went ahead.

And we still managed to have 10 club records broken from 5k to Ultra distances.

I can't express my thanks enough to those committee members stepping down this year - James, Rachel and Sarah. You have all given so much to the club both mentally and physically. It is by no means an easy job sitting on the committee and I think the last two years have been harder than most.

Special thanks to Rachel who has sat on the committee for many years and is our longest serving committee member, through some very challenging and emotional times. So thank you Rachel, my voice of reason in many situations and who I will miss dearly.

James, the money man. I'm going to miss your gifs and quick one liners. I thank you for keeping our feet on the ground and for also getting us back to a very healthy financial position.

And Sarah, working tirelessly in the background at renewal time and helping me identify new members as there are too many members to keep track off.

Also thank you to everyone who has volunteered in some capacity or another with the club, it's tough for 10 people to manage on their own and we need some help sometimes.

Managing a club with over 400 members is a challenge, keeping 400 people happy and making the best decisions for the whole club comes with some criticism, all I ask for the next year is to remember we do this job without malice or bad intent, not one person on this committee sets out to upset anyone, we do what we think is best for the majority of

the members and the club. We know not everyone will agree but you can't please all of the people all of the time and sometimes we do make mistakes as we are only human.

Also, it's always great to hear good feedback so feel free to tell us what a great job we are doing whenever you like. We all take pleasure in seeing you all running together because at the end of the day that is why we all joined BFR.

Couple of reminders - renewals and volunteers for Bracknell Half, need another 10 or so please.

Alex Perrior, Chairman