

BFR AGM - CHAIR'S REPORT

8th May 2024

It has been another busy and successful year, with our members taking part in races literally everywhere.

We had over 1000 race results emailed in (so massive thanks to Rhonda, Anna, Ian and Gary for entering them all) from some very exciting races as far flung as Amsterdam, Berlin, Stockholm, Chicago, Florida, New York, Tokyo and Sydney!

I know of at least 3 members who have completed their Abbot World Majors this year. A great achievement.

Many of you took part in the club championship races and we will be handing out the trophies tonight.

Club Records: 6 new Club Records were set this year:

- Jenni Jones, 50-55 100km (Race to the King Non Stop)
- Sandra Pankhurst 50-54 Marathon (Chicago)
- John Burnett 40-44 Half Marathon (Wokingham)
- Steve Faulkner 55-59 Marathon (Amsterdam)
- and a DOUBLE record for Cath Joncyzk who in the 65-69 cat took the Marathon (Rome) and Half Marathon (Reading)

Well done everyone!

We continue to offer 4 handicap races at The Look Out. These are all free to enter and are always very well attended and judging from the feedback we had, all runners and volunteers enjoyed themselves.

All 8 events in the Thames Valley Cross Country League went ahead this season. Our numbers were a little lower than in previous years but I know there are a lot of people who thoroughly enjoyed the season. We will be presenting some ever-present awards later, to those who braved all weathers to take part in all 8 races.

Our own event at Lightwater was a huge success and I'd like to thank Niki Felton for continuing to be our XC Captain. This is a huge responsibility and a lot of work which is very much appreciated.

We are very grateful to our army of volunteers who helped us set up and take down, who marshalled, organised the start and finish and manned the buffet.

Well done to all our runners too.



Once again, we had volunteers helping on baggage and the elite water station at the London Marathon. We also had a huge team of people helping at the Bracknell Half Marathon and at the Sam Run in 2023.

We help at these local races every year and it is a great opportunity to do something for our local community and to show everyone what a great team we are.

In October we successfully moved our Monday night club run from the sports centre to SHP. This was primarily done to save the club money (Fin will be going through the finances in a minute) as car parking was costing us £2500 per year.

With summer hopefully around the corner, it will be a lovely setting to enjoy post run refreshments and a chat.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members who have supported me this year. Many of us are stepping down after several years of service. We will be voting in a new committee this evening and I know that we are leaving the club in safe hands.