

Hello Erme Valley Harrier members. Thank you for taking the time to read my annual report.

Firstly, I'd like to thank the Committee for all of their efforts over the last year, a lot of work goes on unseen by every member of the committee which allows the club to run smoothly. If anybody else would like to join the committee please do get in touch we would welcome input from the full spectrum of club members. Also whilst not a committee member I'd like to thank Dave Fox for his great work in producing the Harrier every month.

Secondly, I'd like to thank all of you for coming along on a club night, it's great to see so many people turning up regularly on a Tuesday night. Thank you to Emma Lake and Charlie Milward who have taken over the scheduling of club runs this year; the mixture of speed sessions and other runs are very popular.

Looking back on my aims for 2024 we had three targets:

1. Increase senior membership level to greater than 150
2. Encourage even more club members to participate at some of the races available to them as part of their membership
3. Increase entry numbers to the 10k, our relays and our fell race.

We have increased our senior membership compared to 2023 but we haven't achieved our stretch target of 150, we still have ambitions to reach this number and we are keen to develop strategies for increasing both our senior and junior membership numbers. We have had a successful year with club trips to local races such as the Tavy 7 and Bridgewater 10k and Half marathon. Numbers were up for all 3 of the races we host, so thank you again to all our members who helped out with marshalling etc for these events including on quite a cold wet evening on the moors. Your efforts are very much appreciated, we are very grateful to you supporting us when we host these events.

Looking back at the last year, a few things stand out as highlights for me:

Successes both individually and teams at the Westward League cross country including winning the combined team award for the first time in many years. Thanks to Becky Lee for her organisation of the cross country and it was also great to see so many members give cross country a go for the first time or make a return to it.

The success at our own relays with our men's team winning the race for the first time in 20 odd years along with a sterling effort from our mixed team almost claiming that particular title for the first time in the club's history.

Finally, the general camaraderie among club members at training, meeting up at local parkruns and other races. It's great to be part of such a welcoming club, so I'd like to thank you all for making the club what it is.

Whilst the year on a whole has been overwhelmingly successful we acknowledge that we must continue to monitor and review our club policies and grievance procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of all of our members.

Chris has covered the finances so I won't go in to detail but we have made a reasonable profit this year which given the increased number of events we have paid for members to enter, , social occasions alongside general inflationary costs I think is a good outcome. Our 10k remains the bedrock of our finances and helps us to keep our membership fees down to one of the lowest in the local area. However, we recognise that as a club we have a surplus of cash and we want to give our members the best value for money. As such, next year the club will pay for all Devon County Championship race

which includes the cross country race at Exeter, the county fell race championship, the track and field championship and the road race championship (the Ross Shield / Tavy 7).

My aims for the club next year are as follows:

1. Increase senior membership level to greater than 150.
2. Encourage more people to lead / help lead club runs now.
3. Support the junior coaches and parents both at training nights and competitions (track and field and cross country)

Thank you again for reading and I look forward to seeing you at club or a race soon.

Tom Davies