

Secretary's AGM Report 2025

It has been another positive year for the club and most things have continued to go well.

The senior training sessions have been well attended, and we have also had a steady influx on new members. The junior numbers at sessions have not been as good and we are looking at ways to recruit.

There has again been no real change with the facilities at the Rugby Club, which is still down to finance, but we have continued to have an overall good working relationship with them. We are really keen to improve the member experience and would welcome any views that anyone has.

Our membership currently stands at 238 which is pretty much the same as 2024. The breakdown is 136 seniors (of which 8 are volunteers) and 94 juniors of which only 38 are under 11. This is down on the previous year when we had a large influx in September. This has not occurred this year for some reason.

Tom has continued to do a great job as Chair also thanks to Emma for taking on the Handicap which has gone well. Chris Prall has continued as treasurer keeping us on a sound financial footing but is now standing down.

The 10K went very well after a slow start, numbers were good in the end. We will have to look at the route for 2026 in view of the building developments near the start, but hopefully all will be OK. We staged the ever popular relays again (which also went well). We also put on the 3 Tops Fell Race again, there were a few issues but on the whole it went well. These events require a lot of help from our members who do a fantastic job. We are very fortunate indeed to have such a great bunch of experienced volunteers. We are always looking for people to take on roles for our races. If anyone is keen to get involved then please speak to one of us.

I would like to thank all the committee for all their hard work once again this year. Particular thanks to Sharon for all she does for the club. Also well done to Lynne Whitfield for her work with the Club Championship. I would also like to thank the coaches who have again done a great job. I would also like to thank my wife Jayne (as always) who does such a valuable job helping the club and me. We are still struggling with just a small band of coaches despite the return of Matt Hoey and it is still a major area of concern going forward.

A huge thank you to Dave Fox for producing more fantastic Harrier magazines. Ken and Sharon have done an excellent job with the kit. We continue to try and keep in contact via Facebook, Twitter, emails and the website. We hope to look at the use of the Spond App for seniors. Looking ahead to 2026 we face challenges as always but I'm sure if we all work together, we can overcome.

The main ones are as follows:-

- Facilities as both the Rugby Club and Ivybridge College are still not ideal despite some improvements. We need to offer our members a good experience in every way.
- Encouraging the juniors to take part in club competitions particularly track and field. Improve communication and understanding of parents.
- Recruit and train more coaches (particularly junior ones) and volunteers in general. We need to have a succession plan to replace our older volunteers whilst maintaining continuity. This is a particular priority for us.

I hope you all enjoy the AGM and that you gain a lot of understanding of how the club works. It is an opportunity for you to put your views forward. The club will continue to go forward in a safe, sustainable way in line with the requirements of the governing bodies and our members.

Keith Reed November 2025