

## Bollington Harriers Running Club Chair Report – 10th October 2020



What an interesting year our club has seen in the last 12 months but firstly I would like to thank our former Chair Gogs Davies for his contribution to the club and his knowledge and experience that he has shared with your club. It was his encouragement that seen many of our members trying out the trails and taking part in the local ultra-race — The Gritstone Grind. He is also a regular volunteer at our local Parkruns always encouraging and cheering you on and he organised for the club to volunteer to take over the Macclesfield Parkrun.

It was a great honour to be elected as the new Chair in November and with the support of a strong Committee, we have continued to develop the club with many exciting events.

It is a great pleasure to see our members developing their running, the new friendships that are formed and the many other benefits that running brings. I would like to share a personal quote sent to me from our member Andrew Dixon which sums up your club this year:

'I think this year has been exceptional for the Harriers. The shared joy and camaraderie the club has brought to me and others have been more important than ever in these times and the ways the club has adapted to the restrictions to help newbies and experienced runners have been great. As such a friendly club it has no doubt been of help to many for both physical and mental health'.

Bollington Harriers is a friendly, inclusive running group. We normally have organised group runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays – we do Trail running on Wednesday. The group supports Couch to 5K courses getting novices and those returning to running back into the habit. There is always support – we led regular training for members attempting longer distances such as the Wilmslow Half and London Marathons.



There are many wonderful highlights that your club has achieved during 2019/20 and just a small selection of these are:

In December 2019 we held our annual club race to White Nancy and the Winners this year were

1st Lady – Nicola Booth and 1st Male – Rob Massey

Nearest to the time was Andrew Chaplin and Helen Clarke (for the second year)

Sadly, due to COVID-19, we will need to review if and how we can hold the race. We will keep you posted on this!



Covid-19!!! The pandemic will continue to impact us for the rest of 2020 and into 2021 as well, our club will continue to lead our group runs and events within the Government Guidelines and advice provided to us from the Association of Running Clubs ensuring you and our community are kept safe and healthy. We have an excellent group of Running Leaders who work together to provide a variety of speedwork sessions, road and trail run to suit all our members. I would also like to make a special mention to Rebecca Andrews who has provided C25K Course with support from Corrine Grimes and Kathryn Moore.

We have also been very lucky as the lockdown has not prevented us from running and has seen an increase in people taking up running, families running together, runners increasing their mileage and we live in a beautiful community with many wonderful routes to explore.

Supporting the Bollington community your club has made donations to Bollington Town Council Community COVID 19 Local Support Fund and to The Bridgend Centre from the Virtual 10K Race

As I bring our review of our last 12 months to a close on behalf of the club we would like to thank Helen and Rob at The Poachers for being our home pub, a place to meet post runs for rehydration and a place to hold our meetings. They have now given us a special place to put our notices up and to proudly display our silverware.

Bollington Harriers – A Club that loves to run in the community of Bollington and the surrounding areas.

Look for us on -















Thank you to all our members and the <u>Committee</u> for another super year despite the challenges we have faced, it is great to see the camaraderie that running brings to us all.

Keep safe and healthy V Keep on running V