

Chair's report WCOC AGM 2017:

Firstly apologies if I miss anything - please speak up if you think I have. It's difficult to keep abreast of what's happening through the year - some people will have heard all of what I'm going to say but many won't.

As last year the various reports are available to read on the website and you can find more detail of all the things I'll talk about there - please do so. Thank you to all the authors.

It's great to say each year that our club is successful. If you take an interest in British Orienteering's strategy you'll know it is summed up as MP3 - more people, more places and more podiums. Our club meets that quite nicely.

More people - Jon Eaton's report tells us membership is up, bucking the national trend, allowing us to have more runners and in the future more helpers. Mike Harrison reports a significant increase in runs across all our local series (Winter, Spring Park, Summer and Autumn Park), Galoppens and club chases. We have had some problems - one or two events cancelled due to lack of planner-organisers - but Mike and his team addressed this in the summer and we now have active recruitment of planners and mentors which has allowed us to get back on track. We will always need new people to get involved so please encourage others to do so. Thanks to all who have planned and organised this year (particularly Alan, Bob and Bob at the British Relays) and of course to all those behind the scenes dealing with access, mapping and kit.

While we're on Access please note we urgently need someone to be a National Trust Liaison officer, as well as to replace Steve Sullivan who had done many years sorting access at Ennerdale and Kinniside. If you know anyone who can do these please let the Committee know.

More people - more coaches, led by Lynne - we have a growing band both in numbers and skills, with new level 2 coaches. They not only coach at club training but also North West Junior Squad and the Junior Regional Orienteering Squads events. We are very proud that they send 18 TD5 technically competent junior orienteers to NWJS, as well as supporting Roger's School Festival O events with follow up coaching - as Lynne says, many many juniors and parents, and many many smiles. So many many thanks to Lynne and her team. And a shout out for the juniors who inspire younger juniors (and us), give back in planning and helping at events, and act as great ambassadors for the club. Lynne is very keen that we continue to develop and meet people's needs and will continue the coaching conversation after this AGM and throughout the year.

Orienteering can be seen as a turn up, run and go home activity but our social activities have brought people together both through our regular meets like the Pie and Pea, but also by creating events with more social opportunity - the Club Chases at Hawse End and Loweswater village hall, the Keswick Biathlon at the Football club in Fitz park, as well as Triple O and Run and Ride.

More people are aware of what orienteering is and what's going on through the efforts of Roger Jackson's weekly news and Jane Hunter with her press reports, along with the rise of our social media presence.

More Places - we have many dedicated people on a mission. The mappers continue to link up areas, update maps and find new areas which in turn takes us to new places, and gets more schools orienteering. Our members continue to travel far and wide for great orienteering experiences both at

international festival events and coaching tours and representing England and Great Britain which leads me on to

More Podiums. For British Orienteering this means success of our elite athletes at World Cup and Championship events. At WCOC we have people aiming at that level (and reaching it - Charlotte on the international podium in the GB relay team, 5th at the Latvia World Cup event in August). However, I think it also means orienteers at all levels improving and succeeding with their own goals, both individually and as part of a club team. This is everything from stepping up from one colour course to the next and completing the course. It is winning the Borrowdale Trophy where everyone counts (we're ahead with two events to go - let's get it back!). It is improving your placing in our local series, national ranking or beating those personal rivals we all have (don't we?). And then it is a whole series of higher successes - it's really difficult to catch them all or to put one above another but they include:

Wins at

the Peter Palmer Junior Relays (second consecutive time - we had 3 teams and 23 juniors running),

British School Championships (again second consecutive time for Cockermouth School),

British Night, Relay, Long, Middle and Sprint Championships (I think we have 5 British Champions and 2 British Relay champion teams), as well as wins at the JK. And many more top 3s and top 10s.

And of course club members have represented England and Great Britain at the World Schools (9 club members in the team!), Junior Inter-regionals, Home Internationals, Interland, Junior European Cup, European Youth championships and the World Championships.

This of course is the Club's 50th Anniversary year, in which we have put on extra events, along with trimmings such as a 50th Banner, O-top, trophy and a few more. We're looking forward to a celebration dinner on 25th November and seeing Mike Pearson's photos from the year. Many thanks to all those who have worked hard to bring this 50th programme in particular the working group of Lesley Wornham, Lynne Thomas, Iain Teasdale and John Taylor.

We are a very successful club - thank you to you all who have made it so!