**AGM Chair’s Report**

* A year ago, March 2020 we held our AGM and Awards evening at St Francis Social Club as usual. Elbow bumps were a novelty, but otherwise we had no idea what was to come and what a strange year it would be
* So, let’s look forward to the rest of 2021 and beyond. I believe the past year has shown us what amazing members we have, and how special the club is to all of us. I am hopeful that, not only will we be able to resume training and start organising and participating in our usual events soon, but there will also be new ventures happening as well. Everyone can’t wait to get together and celebrate socially too
* Thank you to all those who have kept us amused and busy in 2020. Such a range of Virtual Races which Mark talks about in his report – but probably won’t mention his own part in this. A huge amount of work went into these races . Many members also took part in the quizzes we held in 2020. Again, a great effort from Josh Franks, Rob Watts, Mags Lazelle, Andy Hind and Ben Gibson. Thank you.
* Head Coach Mike Bale has led from the front in keeping us all training with excellent leadership from Martin on the endurance side, and Linda with the juniors, plus the rest of the run leaders and coaches. It has not been at all easy observing government and England Athletics guidelines, while wanting to keep fit and active in the way we are used to. We are very grateful to all those who have helped. Mike has detailed this in his report
* Sadly, in the latter part of 2020, we lost two key members, our sprints coach, Bob Ruff, and international mountain runner, Chris Smith. We miss them both but will treasure the contribution they made to the club for many years to come
* Thanks to Rob Watts and Andy Hind, 2021 will see a reappearance of an old favourite, when our much loved newsletter, ‘The Highwayman’, returns in a new format. Watch this space for further news. Meanwhile, catch up on old editions on the website. Thank you to John Rix for all the painstaking scanning and uploading
* During 2020, committee meetings were held on Zoom and I would like to thank all the members for staying positive and for their hard work Andy Hind has moved our communications a long way forward with a smarter website and social media presence. Mike Parish has kept an eye out for any members who have been struggling during the pandemic, with his kind words and positivity
* The Track Project is still alive but 2020 has seen little progress. The good news is that all parties are still on board so we hope for greater action in 2021
* Lastly, the Awards. This year we decided it wouldn’t make sense to award our traditional prizes, as competition was almost non-existent. So, instead, we will highlight and reward those who have helped to keep the Beetroot flag flying in 2020. **See you on the 25th to find out who did what!**

Marion Hemsworth

HHH Chair

March 2021