

## **CHAIRMAN's REPORT - 2017 AGM**

### **CLUB ADMINISTRATION**

The administration of the club has taken a huge step forward with the appointment of Mark Gold as Administrator. He left the army with the rank of Major in February 2017 after a distinguished career and with the honour of a George Medal. Mark has been coaching in the club for a number of years, with his children competing for the club.

Having been in the role since June, I am sure you will all agree on the fantastic contribution he has made to the club already. His professionalism and organisational skills are second to none. Thank you Mark!

A big thank you to Danielle in her role as Treasurer, which she took on last February, and for continuing to oversee the Academy along with Hannah and Gayle who are doing great work. Thank you all!

I would like to thank all members of the General Committee for their outstanding work and support, particularly Helen James, our President.

Mary Lister and her team continue to work tirelessly in running the canteen and bringing great revenue; also Enfys Hawthorn who manages the club kit. Thank you all for your continued support.

Finally, I would like to offer my thanks to all our team managers, coaches and parents for all their support and efforts. Without them we would not function properly.

### **COMPETITION**

The club is very proud of Aled Davies who added more gold to his long list of medals in the Para World Championships, breaking the World Record in the shot and winning the gold in the discus. Steve Morris also competed in the 800m, 1500m and 5000m, reaching the final in all three events.

In the World Championships we had representatives in Bethan Davies (20k Walk), David Omoregie (110m Hurdles) and Ieuan Thomas (3000m Steeplechase).

Keeping it in the family, Sarah Omoregie competed in the Commonwealth Youth Championships taking the silver medal in the shot. Lauren Evans competed in the 100m hurdles and Naomi Reid in the 800m.

Jake Heyward added the European Junior gold medal to his Youth gold medal over 1500m which he won in 2016. He also broke Kevin Glastonbury's long standing Welsh and club record over the same distance. Outstanding running!

Finally, as far as the club is concerned, we have achieved promotion back to the Premier Division of the senior men's British Athletics League, an excellent achievement by all the athletes and Andrew Seary. We hope this will be repeated in the years to come to consolidate our status in the League. The women's team missed out on gaining promotion to the Premier by one point - unlucky!! The good news is that Sharon is continuing as team manager. Come on girls; give Sharon your support to make that promotion next year.

Congratulations to all our teams, track and field of all ages, road and cross country for their achievements. They have represented us with pride and distinction.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE ON A GREAT YEAR!!!**

With the Commonwealth Games next April, we have a large number of athletes who have achieved the A and B standard performances and we wish them every success in their quest to make the team and perform to their full potential. Good Luck!

I need to mention Rhys Williams' retirement from competing due to repeated injuries. On behalf of the club I would like to thank him for his contribution to our club, country and the UK. The highlight of his career must have been winning the European 400m Hurdles title - no mean feat! Thank you Rhys for all you've done for the club and we wish all the best in your future. We will be calling on you to help us from time to time - you're not leaving us completely!

Just to remind you all that 2018 is a special year for us as it is the 50th Anniversary of Roath Harriers and Birchgrove Harriers amalgamating to become Cardiff AAC. We are currently planning a number of events to celebrate this occasion. Watch this space!!!!

### **The latest update on our use of the stadium (our home).**

We are still trying to extend our lease on our clubroom to a further 30 years as we have approximately 15 years left on our current lease.

The introduction of season tickets has taken place and I would encourage all our members to purchase them, as it is much better than having to pay each time you use the facilities.

The really good news is that the track is being resurfaced in next year. Starting at the end of July, it will take up to 6 weeks to complete. Obviously, this is going to cause logistical problems as the track will be out of action for that length of time. We will keep you informed and, hopefully, we will try and find an alternative venue for training. It is something worth enduring in order to get a new track!

On a final, sad, note, Tony Elgie passed away recently. He was a member of the club while based in the RAF at St Athan and competed for the RAF as well as Cardiff AAC. He was an 800m runner with a personal best of 1min 51secs. He was Club Captain during our most successful years when we won the British Athletics League overall title three times and also the League Cup. He was a great captain and a lovely man. I was proud to be in his team and to call him a friend. We offer our sincere condolences to his family.

Apologies if I've overlooked anything and anyone in my Report.

Bernie Plain