Charlotte Raine 2024 AGM speech to be read:

2023 was a great year for socials.

We started 2023 with great sadness following the loss of our lovely friend, Jonathan Fligestone. We had a lovely run at Worcester Woods Parkrun paying tribute on 7th January. It was a touching tribute as Jonathan loved Parkrun. It was a fantastic turnout in the wind and rain, and it made so many of us proud to be part of a club that comes together during such times.

The Quiz and Auction Night in February was fantastic – the room was packed with 72 entrants, and we raised a huge amount for our charity, The Cart Shed.

In April we hosted a half marathon from the Rugby Club, to celebrate with Keith Ruff. Jamie and Tracey did a great job providing water stations and jelly babies at various points, and we had some lovely cake to finish!

We had a great family day at Peachley in May - a 1km children’s run and 5km relay with 7 relay teams taking part. We hope to do something similar in 2024, as it was a lovely, chilled afternoon (apart from the gruelling 30minutes of running!!).

In June, large numbers attended the Croome Social Summer Run. This is a lovely informal canter around the estate, hosted by our friends at the Black Pears! £1, and a really pleasant evening – no time restrictions, just a social.

We also held our annual Malvern Joggers 10k race! We are so grateful every year to everyone who participates – whether you are volunteering or taking part. It was so much fun, and the weather was fantastic! Sam went “off piste” which added to the excitement of setting up. Great atmosphere and we always receive so much praise and positive feedback.

A group of joggers had another great weekend in Porthcawl in July, starting with Barry Island on the Saturday morning and Porthcawl 10km on the Sunday. I hear fish and chips, a local pub meal, lots of cake, a campfire and a variety of tents and vans, swimming and surfing, were all highlights of the trip.

In September, we had the Cart Shed Canter, an amazing morning running in the beautiful Herefordshire countryside on a 5 mile hilly route, which was very well attended.

In October we held a curry night at Vasai to celebrate the wonderful running achievements this year! This was again a really enjoyable evening and we hope to hold similar events this year.

We ended the year with a boozy night at the Rugby Club for our annual Christmas party. I think we will all be raving about Selena’s sausage roll until she makes some more! A big thank you to Jamie for clearing up towards the end of the night.

As you know, I am due to be having a baby in March, but I hope maternity leave will allow me to have some more time to plan some more events – a quiz night, meals, informal runs, another summer family day, bbq, perhaps even a night away. If you have any other ideas, please do let me know.