2023 has been a stable year with the running club with most events and activities returning to normal now that the post pandemic boom has settled.

However stable certainly does not mean quiet and there has been a hell of a lot of events and races throughout the year, from the quiz and the BBQ to marathon and ultra marathon races, to the tens of Champions League races across the country. My highlight of the year yet again was the 10k in late June, where 200 runners took on the scenic and challenging race with our very own Henry Pugh coming in 3rd place. Aside from the participants, there was a raft of volunteers who helped, set up, register runners, marshal, serve food, tail walk and pack away. Along with tens of other behind the scene jobs that are needed in order for the event to go ahead. So I’d like to put on record the committees sincere gratitude to each and every individual who was involved, by either helping or running. With this I must also thank our sponsors Lucy and Tony from PWS as well as Keith Ruff for the very generous support, maximising our profit to donate to our chosen charity, The Cart Shed. It gives me a great sense of pride showcasing what the club is capable of to other running clubs across the county – and the positive feedback supports this,

You will see that the date for 2024’s 10k has been recently released as Wednesday 26th June.

Kit sales have also settled with around 60 units of kit sold throughout the year.

Several months ago, you would have seen my request for some help with the organisation of kit and I am glad to announce that Eleanor has kindly offered to support me with this. At the time I offered to stand in temporarily as kit organiser at the start of 2021, I didn’t envisage it lasting this long but have enjoyed it along the way. Last year at the AGM I mentioned about my desire to progress some new pieces of kit, particularly ‘non running kit’ that as of yet hasn’t turned into fruition, I have been working on this in the background just not at the rate of knots I was hoping. Now with this support from Eleanor I can spend the time on progressing these and get them available to you much quicker.

We will soon have a generic e-mail address for kit enquiries, and our biggest project of the year is going to be introducing on-line kit sales on the website. This should take out some of the admin and hopefully give a smoother purchase process for members.

We have a relatively low stock of running tops, but we are looking to replenish this within the next few months with the first order of lightweight running jackets along with a new buff, maximising postage and packaging.

We are at the final design stages for both, and over the next few weeks you will see a poll posted on the website & Facebook to have your say in the design, similarly to how we voted in the new running top back in 2021.

The new buffs will be a stock item which we will order in bulk and hold. Running Jackets due to the cost we will deal with slightly differently.

As the price is not finalised until we know the full order quantity, due to obtaining a cheaper per unit cost with the more we order we will likely take a deposit for each order, until the order window closes and then request the final payment once the final price has been secured.

SHOW preview of kit on slide

2024 looks to be another promising year for the club, with a great foundation of members and participation of events around the world. We have the parkrun takeover coming up on the 3rd February so it would be great to see a sea of green up at Worcester Woods. There is a google sheet for volunteers on the website if you would like to support.

Some of you may know I haven’t been running ‘properly’ for a while, and this is likely to be the case for the foreseeable with a recent diagnosis of an injury/condition. However I will be doing my upmost to stay involved particularly on club nights. I wish you all a very successful year of running!