# Hardley Runners AGM Sunday 23 February 2025 10am at Vibrant Forest Brewery

In attendance:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alice Rudd | Imogen Hart | Mick Anglim |
| Andrew Vaughan | Jack Fairbrother | Mike Sleath |
| Adrian Mudle | Jane Hodge | Oscar Pritchard |
| Andy Simpson | James Peckham | Paul Blundell |
| Charmaine Bradford | Jo Blackmore | Ray Noke |
| Chris Harris | Karwan Moutasim | Sarah Fitton |
| Claire Aplin | Katharine Broomfield | Sarah Hood |
| Dan Chown | Kev Day | Simon Ibbotson |
| Danii Bundy-Marsh | Linda Noke | Tamsin Roberts |
| Dan Parker-Hales | Louisa Rayner | Tim Bates |
| Emma Fairbrother | Lucy Simmonds | |
| Hilary Hinks | Martin Loveless | |

Apologies:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Roy Van Hall | Kate Garner | Mark Lee |
| Tracey Hickson | Marnie Seymour | Julie Swainson |
| Lou Kitcher | Jeremy Barber | Mary Corbett |
| Barbara Clark | Sharon Avery | Susan Stone |
| Mike Smith | Karen Denham | Richard Bingham |

The Chair opened the meeting by inviting the committee to introduce themselves.

## Item 1: Record attendance and apologies

The Secretary stated that the Club has 175 members. With a required quorum of 10%, given the attendance listed, the meeting was declared quorate.

## Item 2: Minutes of 2024 AGM

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as an accurate record of the proceedings.

**Proposer**: Sarah Fitton
Seconded by Linda Noke

## Item 3: Chair's Annual Report

Sarah said that there had been a lot of change this year but that she hoped the new joint chairmanship would provide a good balance between the competitive side and the social side of the Club. The Chairmen both stated that they welcomed input and ideas from all members going forward. Andrew wanted to thank the Committee for their efforts and especially Charmaine who was standing down after 10 years of service as Secretary. The meeting applauded Charmaine and she was presented with flowers.

Andrew provided the following report:
The last year has been another successful one for the club with a packed schedule of social events, social runs, club leagues and training. As a new member to the club myself, I am grateful for the warm welcome I have received. The first club event I attended was the RR10

at Marwell zoo. I was immediately put at ease by the friendliness and encouragement I received from our members in what otherwise could have been an intimidating atmosphere at this multi-club event. One of our greatest accomplishments as a club is the community that we have cultured.

**Thank you…**

- To all members of the club. Without your active participation and enthusiasm, we simply wouldn't have the resources to provide the eclectic mix of activities that are on offer.
- Your families, friends and the local community for helping to support our club and its activities. This includes those that have volunteered to marshal, those who have baked cakes for our races, and our local community that put up with us running up and down their streets each winter.
- To the run coaches and run leaders. Each week they organise a professional plan of drills and workouts, catering to all abilities. They champion our members to achieve their goals and stay healthy, whilst diligently ensuring their safety, making sure no one is left behind.
- To the committee who volunteer their time to ensure the activities that we all enjoy run like clockwork each year.

**Events and activities**

**Social events –** the social committee organised a wide range of running and non-running events throughout the year to bring members together to have fun without the pressure of competition. These included the Christchurch social paddle, the annual awards picnic, the cider weekend events and the Hardley Christmas party.

**Beginners running course-** Run in spring 2024, this was another successful year, inspiring 4 of the attendees to join Hardley Runners, despite the wet weather that they had to endure. They have been welcomed into the club and it has been inspiring to see them continue to train and participate in racing, including challenging cross country runs.

**Parkrun golf –** hosted on a Saturday at a parkrun within an hour's drive of Applemore leisure centre, this friendly inclusive competition was organised on a monthly basis. Each participant receives a personalised handicap at their first race. At all subsequent races, the winner is the individual to shave the most time from their handicap. This is a great idea because although a competition, the handicap normalises differences between age, gender and ability, emphasising personal progress over absolute speed. Anyone can win! The winner gets to choose the location of the next parkrun golf as their prize. It would be great to see this resurrected in 2025.

**Sunday and Tuesday social runs-** open to all, these events emphasise the enjoyment of running with others over varied terrain, without the pressure of competition.

**Exbury 10K –** thank you to our members and families for continuing the Hardley Runners tradition of supporting the organisers of the Exbury 10K. In exchange for your time and effort, the organisers made a financial donation to the club.

**Mile of Miles –** this event took place in August. We fielded two teams of 10 members, each taking it in turns to run a mile as fast as they can on a 400m athletics track. The team in which all members completed their respective miles first, won. This year our Hardley Runners A team won the competition. Well done everyone! This is another inclusive event in which members of all abilities, ages and genders can participate. It is a great event for summer and because it is held on a track, each participant can be cheered on and

supported by their club at all times, creating a great atmosphere. Hardley Runners will host the event in 2025.

**Hardley handicap-** This race takes place on a Sunday in December each year and last year's event took place on 15th December 2024. Fancy dress is encouraged and each participant ran a 10Km loop of the Forest. Each participant had to predict their finishing time before entering the race. The winner was the person to finish closest to their predicted time. No watches allowed! This is another fun inclusive event in which runners of all abilities can win, not just the fastest. There is the option to run it as a relay team, making it truly inclusive. There were prizes for the best fancy dress and we all enjoyed mince pies and non-alcoholic mulled wine afterwards. We also collected food to donate to the Waterside Food Bank and it is great how we can create enjoyable events whilst helping the local community at the same time.

**Solent Half Marathon-** our annual HRRL race, we successfully hosted this half marathon in October 2024. Despite competing for space with a tractor rally, 331 runners successfully completed the course. Hosting this race allows us to raise money for our local community. We proudly raised £4031, £495 of which came from the cake sale. We were able to donate £2000 to Oakhaven hospice, £1000 to the Waterside Food Bank and £1000 to the Waterside XMAS appeal, all worthy local causes. Thank you to all club members and families for helping to run such a successful event.

**Summer joint training session with New Forest Runners-** the combined training session held with New Forest Runners last July was the first training session that I attended and was a tough one. It was fun to mingle with the members of the other club and enjoy a hot dog afterwards.

**Race leagues –** We participated in the regional HRRL, RR10, CC6 and HCCL leagues as normal. The RR10, CC6 and HCCL leagues are particularly welcoming to beginner runners, allowing them to try competitive road running and cross country whilst being spared a registration fee. The rota of taking it in turns to host the free races fosters a sense of community between the different clubs, with everyone enjoying a piece of free homemade cake afterwards. Well done to everyone that participated in any of these league races.

**Marathons**

Club members participated in the below marathons in the last year:

Southampton
Brighton
Manchester
London
New Forest
Clarendon
Abingdon
Queenstown

**Ultra marathons**

Club members participated in the below ultramarathons in the last year:

Third Oner 2024
Goring Gap 50 mile

**Looking forward to the year ahead**

We achieved a lot last year, packing in a wealth of activities, recruiting new members and raising money for charities. Looking back at the list of activities in this report, it is amazing how much our volunteers organise for us annually, creating a wealth of choice that caters for all. We are lucky to have built a welcoming, inclusive club. I look forward to participating in these events again this year whilst continuing to encourage inclusivity and proportionality. Let's continue to encourage participation and celebrate individual successes in all its forms.

## Item 4: Re-election of officials

The committee was proposed as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| President | Vacant – can be coopted during the year | |
| *Chair | Andrew Vaughan / Sarah Fitton | new |
| *Secretary | Emma Fairbrother / Imogen Hart | new |
| *Treasurer | Dan Chown | |
| *Membership | Jane Hodge | |
| *Welfare Officer 1 /DBS Verifier | Phil Rudd | |
| *Welfare Officer 2 /DBS Verifier | Charmaine Bradford | |
| Lead Coach | Chris Harris | |
| Cross Country | Mick Anglim | |
| RR10 | Tamsin Roberts | |
| Hampshire Road Race League | Alice Rudd | |
| Webmaster/Online Diary | Simon Ibbotson | |
| CC6 | Dan Parker-Hales | new |
| TRI/CTT | Mick Anglim | |
| Club Kit | Sarah Fitton | |
| Publicity | Karwan Moutasim | new |
| Charities | Sarah Fitton | new |
| Social | Marnie Seymour, Julie Swainson, Louisa Rayner | |
| Solent Half | Tamsin Roberts / Sarah Fitton and team | |
| Committee Member | Jack Fairbrother | |
| Senior Committee Member | Jeremy Barber | |
| IT Coordinator – MemberMojo System | Adrian Mudle | |
| | | |
| * denotes those roles mandated by England Athletics to meet club standards | | |

**Proposer**: Andrew Vaughan and Sarah Fitton
Seconded by Andy Simpson

**The new Committee was voted in unanimously**

## Item 5: Treasurer's report

The accounts had been previously circulated and had been audited. They are included with these minutes as an attachment. The Club is in a healthy financial state. There appears to be a large reduction in credit on the balance sheet which represents £7k passing through the accounts for the Solent Half and from being CC6 custodians. There was a loss at the end of the period of £900 but this was planned expenditure, a decision by the committee to invest in training, both run leader training and first aid training. There is £1500 in the savings account. Most income is from membership, also kit sales and clock hire.

Most payments are in fees, also kit purchases and training. Run leader training cost £640 and First Aid training cost £580.
The Solent Half sold fewer places than the previous year, but less was spent on merchandise for the event which meant overall income was not too much less. Donations totalling £4k were made to Oakhaven, Food Bank and Christmas Appeal.

**Proposer**: Dan Chown
Seconded by Danii Bundy- Marsh

**The meeting voted unanimously to accept the Accounts**

## Item 6: Membership report

Jane provided a report covering:

1. A review of MemberMojo, the new database system
2. Current membership numbers
3. Proposed membership fees for next year

The Club has used MemberMojo for a year. This system manages the membership database and sends out emails. It is easy and cheap to use. MemberMojo will send out renewal requests at the beginning of March.

Current membership is 175, which includes 14 run leaders/coaches and I EA add on:

| | |
|---|---|
| EA members | 101 |
| Non EA members | 59 |
| Second Claim Members | 5 |
| Out of county members | 6 |
| Lifetime members | 2 |
| Members aged 15 to 20 | 2 |

Membership runs form 1 April to 31 March. The AGM sets the fees. From 1 April 2025, England Athletics has put up their fee by £1 to £20. There is no plan currently to increase Club membership fees. Jane highlighted that if people do struggle to pay membership fees they should approach Phil Rudd the Welfare Officer who can deal with this confidentially case by case.

Membership fees for 25-26 are proposed as follows:

| **Category** | **2025** | **2024** |
|---|---|---|
| EA Members | £37 | £35 |
| Non EA members | £17 | £17 |
| Second Claim | £17 | £17 |
| Out of county members | £7 | £7 |
| Members aged 15 to 20 | £0 | £0 |
| Lifetime Members | £0 | £0 |
| EA add on | £20 | £19 |

**Proposer**: Jane Hodge
Seconded by Claire Aplin

**The meeting voted unanimously to approve the 25-26 membership fees**

## Item 7: Club Standards

Charmaine introduced the EA mandated 7 standards to be reviewed each April:

- Constitution
- Committee (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Welfare x2, DBS Verifier)
- Grievance and Disciplinary Policy (included in our Constitution)
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) – Privacy Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity – Inclusion Policy
- Club Safeguarding and Code of Conduct
- Health and Safety – covered in Risk Assessment provided by Chris and coaching team

Hardley Runners is compliant in all of these standards. They are to be continuously maintained under the guidance of England Athletics.

Disposal of assets

The recent audit recommended that the constitution be amended to include provision for the disposal of assets if the Club was closed. The aspiration is to pass on any remaining assets to another club or clubs with the same ethos and membership as Hardley Runners.

Paragraph 22 wording – *22. Any decision to close the club shall be taken at either an AGM or EGM. Any remaining assets (after the payment of proper debts and liabilities) shall be transferred to a similar, England Athletics affiliated local running club or club(s) which welcomes all individuals over the age of 15.*

This wording must have a two thirds majority agreement.
**The meeting voted for the wording for paragraph 22 unanimously.**

By-Law within the constitution

This is to explain the use of funds, in this case to state that EA trained coaches have their EA membership fee paid for by the Club. A qualified run leader / coach by the end of February will have membership paid for the following year. For this to be effective, each run leader must lead at least one training session or one beginners session.

Club Safeguarding and Code of Conduct

EA have mandated this standard for 2025 affiliation. This consists of 3 parts:
1a. Club signed and implemented the club safeguarding code of conduct
1b. Club Safeguarding Policy - “adopt a process for members that includes agreeing and signing up to the codes of conduct and other policies”
-When you sign up for membership / renewal there is a section signposting you to the relevant EA code of conduct info and a checkbox. This applies to all members regardless of EA individual membership, as we are an EA affiliated club.
2. Welfare officer(s) appropriately trained
3. Appropriately qualified and licensed coaches and leaders (ie Coach, leader, first aid, safeguarding)

## Item 8: Club Vision

Andrew had previously circulated four motions for discussion. These are appended to these minutes. Sarah introduced the fifth.

1. SheRaces Guidelines https://www.sheraces.com/race-guidelines - there was discussion about the impact of these guidelines and how administratively burdensome it might be for the Solent Half committee. It was stressed that these were guidelines as opposed to strict rules and should be adopted as pragmatically as possible. Danii suggested that it should be a woman who managed the provision of sanitary products. Paul asked if the guidelines applied to the CC6s and RR10s, and Andrew said no, because they only applied to EA races, and races that Hardley Runners actually sells places for. Claire suggested that Hardley Runners should not only support the guidelines but the Publicity Officer should highlight the fact because it might encourage more women to participate, plus encourage beginner members of all genders.
   **Proposer**: Andrew Vaughan
   Seconded by Daniel Parker-Hales

**The Meeting voted by majority (one against) to carry the motion**

2. Web Investment – the existing website has great content and is extremely well managed by Simon, but it is old and cumbersome for him to work with and is outdated to look at. Simon provided an overview of how a web developer contact he had would update the system and he would maintain it himself going forward. Karwan said that content wise the existing system was great and much better than that of other clubs. Simon reassured that the existing content would not be lost, but might be kept in the existing format. Jane said what it needed was a facelift to make it attractive to new members and especially the younger demographic. She also said that it had always been the club's ambition to renew the website and that this motion was really just about allocating funds and creating a subcommittee to manage it.
   **Proposer**: Andrew Vaughan
   Seconded by Claire Aplin

**The meeting voted to allocate funds to develop the club website**

3. Club Development Plan – this was postponed because there was not sufficient time to discuss.

4. Hardley Mascot – there was much discussion over the Hedgehog proposal. People were keen to have a mascot to create a club identity and for promotional purposes, but felt there should be more ideas put forward before choosing.
   **Proposer**: Karwan Moutasim
   Seconded by Jo Blackmore

**The meeting voted 9 for and 16 against the Hedgehog. The motion was not carried but will be revisited at a future session**

5. Lifetime membership of Hardley Runners for Chris Harris and Mick Anglim
   **Proposer**: Sarah Fitton
   Seconded by Charmaine Bradford

**The meeting voted unanimously to give lifetime membership of Hardley Runners to Chris Harris and Mick Anglim**

## Item 9 Officer reports

1. HRRL – the following report was provided by Alice:

The 24/25 league is in full swing with 7 of the 12 races are now complete. Club runners results count towards both individual and team scores. Runners completing 7 or more races receive a mug and if all 12 races are completed a t-shirt is given.

A total of 27 men and 9 women Hardley members have taken part in an HRRL race this season.

A special mention to Daniel Parker-Hales and Andrew Vaughan who have completed all HRRL races this season so far.

- Ladies A team is currently 3rd in Women's A3 div
- Ladies B team is currently 9th in Women's B2 div
- Men's A team is currently 1st in Men's A3 div
- Men's B team is currently 2nd in Men's B2 div

The next race is Salisbury 10 miles on 6th April 2025, places are still available.

The long list of races to be considered for the 25/26 league will be released shortly and I will be inviting club runners to confirm those races they want to be voted into the league (we will have one vote as a club so I will take the majority decision and feed this back). Please look out for this email in the next few weeks.

2. Club coaching – Chris provided the following report:

Training is going really well with both sessions attracting as many as 30 members each week. The leader and supporter approach works well as one is able to concentrate on the session while the other can support individual runners. There are 2 coaches and 11 run leaders, 13 in total, all doing a great job. There is a new training schedule every 8 weeks. We are able to operate training sessions as a whole club together which is good for inclusion and team work. At the start of April we go back off road, and after Easter we restart the track sessions at the New Forest Academy track.

First Aid training has been required because sessions take place remotely in the forest. This has been expensive but all are now trained.

Beginners 2024 started well. The weather was very wet throughout the 10 weeks and numbers fell quickly. However 3 completed the training and became joined up members of the club at the end. The next Beginners course starts in April and will take place on Tuesdays to coincide with the regular training, but at the earlier time of 6:15pm. By synching the sessions it is hoped that beginners will be feel more included in the club proper from the start and may encourage more joiners. This year there will be a charge for the Beginners

training, a donation to charity, which will be Oakhaven, the same as Ben's charity for the London Marathon. Charging tends to drive commitment, and it is hoped this might encourage beginners to join the Club.

After a successful joint training session with the New Forest Runners in June, and the Hardley success at the Miles of Miles event in August (Hardley A team won, and Hardley B team came 13th), Chris has booked the Southampton Athletic track on March 14 for all Hardley Runners and all levels.

3. Welfare

Phil and Charmaine have both completed Welfare training. There are 15 DBS certificates in the Club.

4. Club kit – Sarah provided the following kit report:

Total kit sales in 2024 was £501.22

12 items of old stock are available at the discounted price of £10 each. Sarah will liaise with Tamsin to see if these could be used to top up the RR10/CC6 box

Buffs are available at £5 each

Hoodies are available from Branding Worx in Totton at about £28.50 each.. Members can call and order direct 02380 869248 saying they want a Hardley Runner hoodie. They will be able to collect in about 2 weeks.

Hats are made to order for charity – suggested donation £15 – just let Sarah know
Current value of stock held is £763.50 (represents 29 items) All sizes in both men's and women's tee-shirts and vests are currently available. An order once a year seems to be working well at the moment, it is done like this to try and minimise p&p costs, which is £24 inc VAT, which is paid for by the club.

There are a few items available for a donation which will go to charity

If anyone has any new ideas for kit, please talk to Sarah

5. CC6

There was no representative present, but the Committee welcomed Dan to the role.

6. RR10

Tamsin explained how this is a series of races that take place on Wednesday evenings through the spring and summer, usually starting at 7pm. They are available to all Hardley Runners at no cost. The only requirement is to wear the club vest. Events are organised by the running clubs in our area. Our event is 6 August and we need volunteers to assist that evening. The Miles of Miles event is 2 July.

7. Cross Country Report

Mick Anglim took over the role of Cross Country Captain from Tim Anetts who was thanked for holding the role since 2018. Mick provided the following report:

**Hampshire Cross Country League**

There were only 4 races this season which meant that the best 3 individual and team results counted. Our men were in Division 3 and our women in Division 2. Our men had team results at Aldershot, Bournemouth and Reading but there no ladies teams at any of the 4 races.

Popham – only 2 men so no team result
Aldershot – 4 men and Alice Rudd and Imogen Hart. Our men's team was 4th.
Bournemouth – 5 men and Alice Rudd. Our men's team was 6th
Reading – 4 men and no women. Thanks go to Sean Bowen for leading our men's team to 6th

Overall our men finished in **5th** position out of 10 teams in Division 3 so will continue to require only 3 men for a team score next season. Mick Anglim was the only Hardley man to run the minimum 3 races and finished second M70 overall.

**Hampshire Cross Country Championships at Fairthorne Manor - 04 January**

There were 7 men and 2 women for the Championships with 6 men and 4 women for a team score. Our men finished 10th Club and 13th team. Jane Hodge won the W65 trophy and Mick Anglim won M75.

**Veterans AC Open Cross Country Championships at Wimbledon Common – 18 January**

Paul Newby and Mick Anglim competed with Paul winning silver in M80 and Mick Silver in M75.

**Southern Counties Cross Country Championships at Beckenham Place – 25 January**

Mick Anglim was the only Hardley competitor at this 15km parkland course with almost 700' of climb.

**National Cross Country Championships at Parliament Hill – 22 February**

There were 8 men and 3 women on this iconic muddy and hilly course with 8k for the women and over 12k and 900' of climb for the men. There were 1,100 women and 2,400 men entered. Our men finished **103rd** from 270 Clubs but our ladies were short of one more brave member for a team score.

8. Solent Half report

Tamsin said that we struggled for volunteers this year, and that getting enough volunteers is always a problem. Entries were down on 2023 which had been a sell-out event. There is no race this year, and next year the race will take place in March. There was some discussion about accepting entries on the day. Mick said that the problem with this is that people defer their decision to enter until they know the weather, or wait to see how they feel on the day, and this would create an administrative burden on the day.

9. Publicity

There was no representative present but the committee welcomed Karwan to the role. Lou sent the Beginners Course PR to the Herald to meet the Friday deadline and handed over previous publicity material to Karwan.

10. Social report – the Social committee announced the following events:

Here is a list of social events we have planned for over the coming few months. We hope there will be something for everyone.

Remember that the social runs are just that - social pace and open to everyone. They usually finish with cake / pub stop or something similar

Saturday 15th Feb - Hamble Social Run 9 miles approx (led by our lovely path-finder extraordinaire, Julie). This will include a trip on the 'pink ferry' at Warsash. This is a fabulous route which ends at a pub for a well-deserved post-run drink!

Saturday 5th April - Portand Social Run 13 miles approx (led by our Hardley hill legend, Mark Lee). This run is a chance to explore a different area, finishing at the Cove House Inn pub for a drink and something to eat for those who wish to. Who doesn't love a little running tourism?! This run also starts the big birthday celebrations for Mark (30 again??) so we hope this will be well attended!

Saturday 10th May - Social paddle - Basingstoke Canal. Bring your paddle board or kayak and join us for some water-based exercise for a change. This is a lovely canal and we start and finish at...a pub! (there is a theme emerging...) Don't worry if you don't have a SUP or kayak, between us we have ones to lend out, just let us know.

Sat 31st May-Sunday 1st June - Andover Trail 24-hour Event - We are hoping to get at least one team organised for this event. Of course, for our ultra marathon runners in the club, you could always run solo to get the miles in. This might also be a good opportunity to raise some money for our nominated Hardley charity should you wish to. Look out for an email from Julie if you are interested in joining us.

Sunday 13th July - Hardley Awards - This is our annual awards picnic. This year, we are planning to start with a social run and then finish with a BBQ at Lepe beach where awards will be presented.

Sunday 31st August - Studland Social run - 7 miles (led by Julie)

Friday 19th December - Hardley Christmas Social event

Please put these dates in your diaries and join us for as many as you are able. The more, the merrier!! We will send out further details as we get closer to each event.

11. Webmaster/Diary report

Simon is busy preparing for the system upgrade. He also asked that all should send him interesting and relevant content for the website, to save him trawling Facebook or otherwise

searching for it himself. He has taken over the Race Diary from Tamsin, and that is on Google Calendar which means people can link to it and have their own calendars updated with race events. Sunday Social runs, RR10s and CC6s are all on there, and he can add anything else people want to see. Please forward to Simon.

Simon provided the following report:
I continue to keep the website up-to-date with the latest results, news, and information. Over the last year or so I have made various changes to the website to improve functionality. I hope that members are generally happy and find of use the content we currently add to the website. Our social media pages work very well for updates and communications about events that have recently happen but the website remains highly useful for an easily accessible record of historic data, as well as the training program, race diary, links to resources, etc.

**Taking over the web hosting and domain registration**
Until last year, the website hosting and domain were being managed by the son of our previous webmaster, Jeremy. We have now taken over this management and the hosting and domain have been moved to a new provider (Eco Web Hosting).

**Developing our New Website**
I have got back in touch with the web developer we had previously contacted regarding creation of the new Hardley website. We will shortly be holding a meeting with him to discuss this project and get things started. The plan is for the new website to be based on the widely-used Wordpress platform. We will provide updates on the progress of the development as it progresses. If members have any comments as to the design and functionality of the new website then please let me know and we can see what can be done to address these.

**New Content for the Website**
Please remember to send the text and images to me for any news, results, or other content so that it can be added to the website. Also, if you spot anything that needs changing please let me know so I can look into it!

**Race Diary Compilers Report**
I have now taken over this role from Tamsin and so please send any details of races or events to me so that I can add them to the shared Hardley Runners diary, which is hosted as a Google Calendar and displayed on our website. If you use a Google Calendar yourself you can add the club calendar to yours so that you never miss an event!
https://www.hardleyrunners.co.uk/RaceDiary.html
I also add the Tuesday and Sunday social run details to the calendar as the information becomes available via the WhatsApp/email notification groups. These are usually held at around the same time as training on Tuesday and at 08:30 on Sunday.

## Item 10: Any Other Business

1. The weekend 21/22 June we need volunteers. 21st June is a proposed date to do a Bartley parkrun volunteering takeover to support our beginners course. 22nd June is

the Exbury 10k event. Sarah stated that volunteers are required to support the event and requested that people should make a note in their diaries. She asked people to volunteer early to make planning easier for the organising team.

2. Claire Aplin has done the posters for the beginners couch to 5k course starting 1 April, and has given these to Karwan.

3. Chris has been contacted by the Countryside Education Trust (CET) Beaulieu regarding the club assisting a 5K and 10K run on the Beaulieu Estate in October or November.

4. Karwan asked Tamsin if volunteers at events had to be Club members, and Tamsin said no, friends and relatives are welcome to volunteer.

5. Jack asked a question about how the Club London Marathon place is allocated. Charmaine said it was allocated using a points based system, with more points allocated to volunteers and those who had not run it before. But following feedback that this was not inclusive, the committee voted to have an open ballot.

6. Danii asked for governance on the Hardley WhatsApp group. Jane suggested a policy for all social media, including FaceBook. Charmaine said the Code of Conduct would cover this. The committee will continue to review the policies and use of social media.

7. There was discussion about how the London Marathon place was allocated. It was felt it should offered in the first instance to someone who had not run it before.
   **Proposer**: Kev Day
   Seconded by Mick Anglim

**The meeting voted to carry this proposal with 24 in favour and 2 against**

**The meeting was closed at 12:08pm**

## Appendix: Proposed Motions For Discussion at the AGM

**Motion 1 – adoption of the SheRaces guidelines as laid out at https://www.sheraces.com/race-guidelines by Hardley Runners**

**Objective –** to level the playing field for female participation in official club races by removing barriers that have traditionally disadvantaged this demographic.

50% of runners are female, yet only 40.75% of entrants in the first 7 races of the 2024/2025 HRRL were female. The proportion was even lower in some races, including the Overton 5 mile, Gosport half marathon and Victory 5 mile in which fewer than 37% of finishers were female (see statistics below).

Overton 5 mile: Total finishers – 467. Male 300 (64.24%) , female, 167 (35.76%).

Solent half marathon: Total finishers – 331. Male 198 (59.8%) , female, 133 (40.18%).

New Forest 10 mile: Total finishers – 822. Male 448 (54.5%) , female, 372 (45.26%).

Gosport half marathon: Total finishers – 1378. Male 874 (63.43%) , female, 503 (36.5%).

Victory 5 mile: 631. Male 406 (64.34%) , female, 225 (35.66%).

Stubbington 10K: Total finishers – 1812. Male 1010 (55.74%) , female, 790 (43.6%).

Ryde 10 mile: Total finishers – 529. Male 286 (54.06%) , female, 243 (45.94%).

Total finishers: 5970 - Male 3522 (58.99%) , female, 2433 (40.75%).

In Hardley Runners, female participation in the HRRL league is less than male participation.

In the 2024/2025 HRRL league so far – the club has returned one complete Hardley Runners women's A team in 7 races. In comparison, the club has returned 7 complete men's A teams.

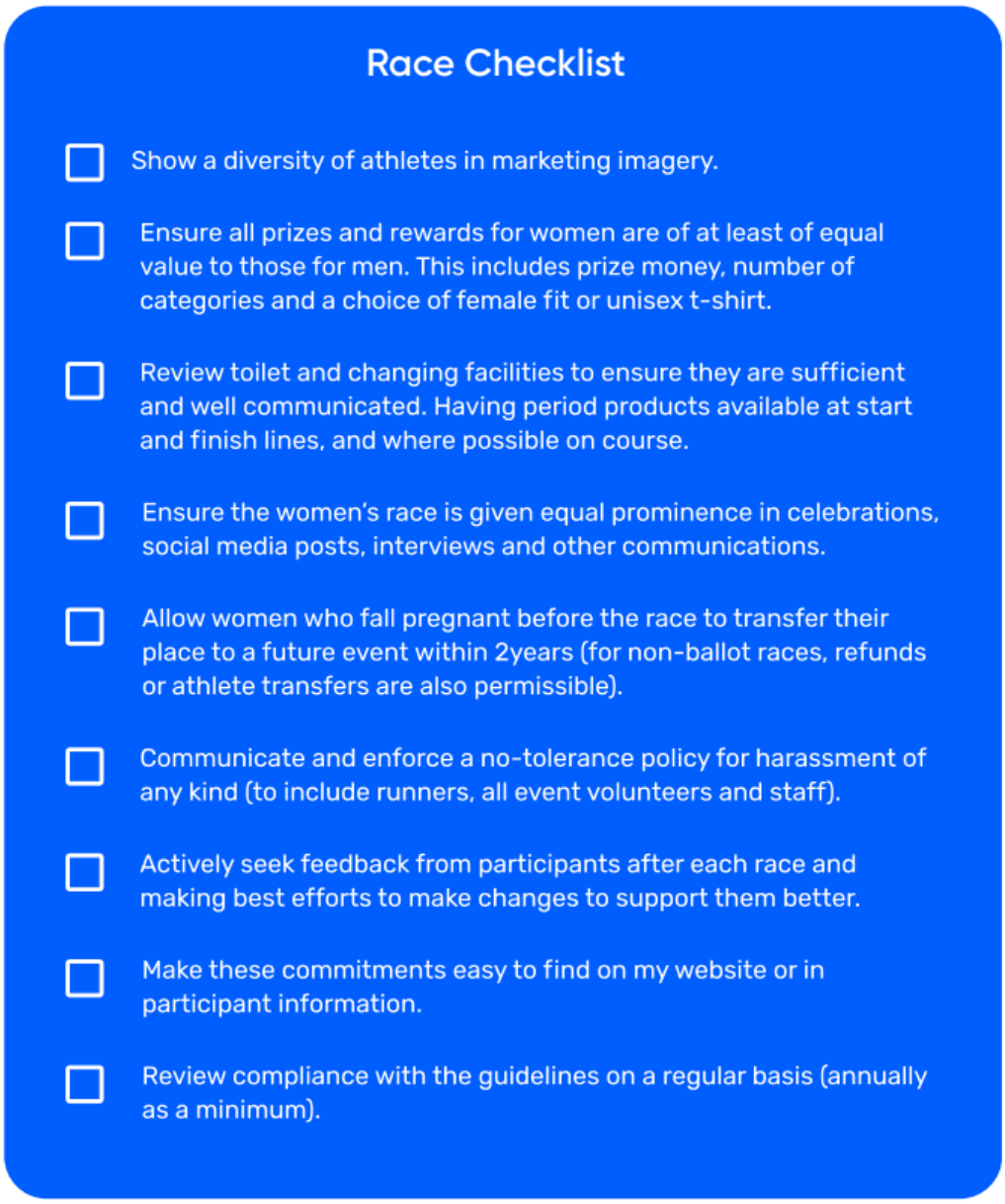
8 different women club members have participated in the 2024/2025 HRRL races so far. In comparison, 24 different men have participated in the 2024/2025 HRRL races from Hardley Runners.

The current Geoff Mills table lists 30 women and 55 men, suggesting that females represent only 35% of England Athletics registered club members.

2022 data published by the Office for National Statistics lists the proportion of females in the New Forest as 51.9% of the 175,942 population.

Data from Runner's World showing that 50% of runners are women, ONS data confirming over 50% of our local population is female, fewer females in our EA-registered club membership, and fewer females participating in the HRRL league suggests that this demographic is under-represented in club running.

The SheRaces guidelines aims to correct this disparity in proportionality by encouraging race organisers to incorporate policies into their race planning that will remove some of the barriers to female participation. They have produced the following checklist:




Looking at many of the items in the list, I believe many of them are already incorporated into the Solent Half Marathon. Our marketing material does show diversity of athletes and I believe we offer the same prizes to males and females.

I believe it would be relatively simple to incorporate the items in the list that we do not currently offer, such as a policy to enable breastfeeding and pregnant individuals the opportunity to defer their entry by 2 years.

It would be relatively cheap to procure a small number of sanitary items to keep at HQ as well as some nearby the public toilets at Lepe beach (on a table next to a marshal). If these are not used, they can be donated to the Waterside food bank as I believe they also stock these items.

The guidelines also highlight the importance of offering generous race cut-off times, information on the average pace needed to complete the course and even a proposed training plan to help amateur athletes achieve the pace.

Offering a discounted entry fee to include race-only (no medal, goodie bags, t-shirts etc.) can also appeal to females who may have to factor in the cost of childcare and wider family commitments into a decision to participate in a race. Although many men also have children and childcare commitments, research suggests that this does not form the same barrier to race participation as it does for women.

Research from Threshold Events has demonstrated that investing in female participation results in significant uptake in race entry from both women and men, which would be beneficial for the Solent Half.

My motion is for the club to formally pledge to adopt the SheRaces guidelines (where applicable and where resources allow) in the planning of the Solent Half marathon and any other club-hosted races which are open to non-affiliated members of the public.

**Motion 2 – Investment of club funds (a maximum of £1500) to commission a professional web-development company to produce a new website for the club**

The current website is a fantastic resource, which is fully up-to-date thanks to the work of Simon Ibbotson and his predecessors. It contains a wealth of club information and archival material.

The absence of a mobile-device compatible format makes it more difficult for those with disabilities such as the visually-impaired to access it. This puts us at risk of failing to comply with England Athletics club standard 5: Inclusion and Diversity. As the website is public facing, we have a duty to anticipate the access needs of our members and the public, so it is important that it is fully accessible by those with disabilities.

The current platform also lacks some functions which could be useful for the running of the club. Through discussion with members, I believe it would be useful for members to be able to order and pay for club kit directly through the website. I believe a modern platform would enable this functionality.

Finally, the current web platform looks dated. This is purely cosmetic, but may be off-putting to some people, particularly younger people that are used to seeing online material displayed in more modern templates. As this may be the first impression that many people get of our club, this could jeopardise our ability to recruit new members in future.

My motion is for the membership to vote to release up to £1500 to pay for a professional company to design a website that can be maintained and updated by the webmaster. This would be an investment that would provide a modern, fully functional template that is fully accessible to people with diverse disabilities, ensuring our compliance with club standard 5. I would predict this template could be used for at least ten years without needing a further re-design.

If passed, I would suggest a sub-committee is formed to help source a company and decide on a theme for the template for the new website as I believe this may be too much for the webmaster to take on alone. I would leave this to the webmaster to make a decision as to whether this is needed.

**Motion 3 – creation of a club development plan using the template provided by England Athletics [Club template - Club development plan - England Athletics Club Hub]:**

I propose that an annual, fully financed club development plan be presented annually to the club membership at the annual general meeting for acceptance by the membership.

We would follow the template provided England Athletics to decide upon our club vision, values, evaluate current club status, and create a plan of action for the next year.

At each AGM, the plan from the previous year will be reviewed prior to the presentation and acceptance of the future plan.

I propose that we introduce this from the AGM in 2026, giving us a year to consult with the membership to create the first plan.

The club development plan will hold us fully accountable to the membership, promote involvement from the wider membership and help to prevent outstanding actions from rolling over multiple years without being actioned.