

## Presidents Report 2022 AGM

The 2021 year was, despite the continuing Covid19 crisis, a successful year for the club. The Executive committee carried on from the previous year with an additional three General members. This is an excellent result for a club whereby the executive members believe in the well-being and future of the club and are willing to carry on committing their own time from their busy lives to keeping it going.

All but one of the current executive members have indicated they are willing to stand again. Michael has indicated he no longer is able to commit to his role and we are going to sorely miss him. I can truly say that his dedication to not only the Communications Manager, but many other operational roles has helped the club turn a corner and grow into a modern organisation. For this I truly thank him. We will touch on the gap left later in the meeting.

With this, now is the time to ease new people onto the committee to help out with the myriad of jobs that need attention. So we hope to continue to introduce new committee members without a high level of commitment.

Club membership is the one area that we must be vigilant towards. We well and truly have halted the year-on-year membership drop that we experienced since 2014! The membership increased by 29% over 2020. Full-membership clubs suffer as people opt for pay-as-you-go type events without commitment. It's hard to pinpoint the reason behind the increase but the new Woman's United running club is no doubt a help – big thanks to Belinda and Lisa for leading this initiative. The committee has a standing item on its agenda to attract new members but really it's the role of everyone in the club to spread the word.

Our major event, the Remutaka Rail Trail, was unfortunately cancelled due to continued Covid19 outbreaks. This has made a serious dent in the club's finances as the Treasurer will explain. As we will go on to show, this will require an increase in Membership fees to cover the shortfall.

Huge thanks to Tania Lister and the organising sub-committee for the hard work and dedication and the fact that the event did not lose any money. Note that grants were obtained from Trusthouse and the Upper Hutt council and we are working with the council to possibly obtain funds from a Covid emergency fund. We have budgeted for the race to return this year albeit with reduced numbers. This will take a lot more management than usual (and without Michael!) we really do need people to join the sub-committee and return us to full profitability.

Stephen (Club Captain) will talk about the club racing successes across the board from Senior to Junior over running and walking. It was especially gratifying that despite a few restrictions the club itself still held all its traditional Club races.

A major highlight for me was to see the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the (modern) annual Club Trip over Waitangi Weekend. Catering mainly to the trail-running enthusiasts we had twelve members, and their families go to Taupo and run parts of the beautiful Taupo Ultra 50km course around Kinloch.

Finally, we have a World Record holder amongst us! I'd like to acknowledge Jackie Wilson's Race Walk result held in Inglewood last year. In the 3000m, Jackie clocked 19:18.90, beating the 19:23.50 set in October 2017. In the 5000m, Jackie recorded 31:58.65 beating the 32:44.76 set in October 1993.

Thanks  
Philip Secker