



Secretary's Report April 2020/21

2020 started with a hive of positivity and lots of events taking place amongst the Riverside members; a new Facebook club was created called 20 in 2020, this was filled with great links and feedback for all past, present and future events.

The Frostbite came to a close at Huntingdon courtesy of BRJ with the Riverside Seniors finishing in first place (go us) and the Juniors in second, what an amazing team effort! What way to show how we are, as a club, a force to be reckoned with; Congratulations to all participants waving the club flag and also to all of the family and friends who attended throughout to give great support. This years Frostbite has been virtual, thank you again to everyone that has supported our club, and, on that note, can I just take this opportunity to remind you all that this weekend is the last for the season, so lets make this one the best one!

My role as Secretary came just as the Covid pandemic saw the Prime Minister Boris Johnson give a firm but necessary instruction as to how we, as a Country should restrict our lives to see us through this worrying time. Events were cancelled without any clear understanding as to when life would return to 'normal'.

The committee acted immediately on the advice and instruction given to ensure that we was all kept safe. We was all asked to 'Stay Home & Stay Safe'. Lonely runs and social distancing became a new way of life.

The team spirit still came through first in the guise of Jo's '1 mile garden challenge' which resulted in Easter eggs being awarded for 'Largest garden', 'Best performance', 'Best running shorts' & 'Smallest garden'.

Next came lots of camaraderie and banter in the form of 'It's still not Kennys relay' followed by Up and Hop. An absolute fantastic effort was put in by all. A big thank you to Jo, Michael & Rodrigo for coming through in our time of need!

Sadly this pandemic continued for longer than any of us had anticipated and along with all other events worldwide it was heartbreaking to realise that the Riverside Runners 10k and Half Marathon would not be going ahead. Committee had discussions as to how with this devastating news we could still help our nominated charity Moggerhanger at a time when more than ever donations were needed. Our wonderful club dug into its resources and sent a donation of £2k and in addition a donation link was placed on our website which raised an amazing £325 and with the welcome virtual HM a further £740 was raised. I can now report that in addition to the monies donated already we are also donating both amounts raised. Thank you everyone for your contribution to this very worthy cause!

Times have been tough and particularly heartbreaking for some, I for one have stopped taking my life for granted. I have, during this this time of madness realised how I am surrounded by such lovely people and despite the overwhelming feelings of despair we have all been there for each other every step of the way.

There is so many things that will always be a reminder of our strange year, toilet rolls, scotch eggs, video calls, bad home haircuts, Captain Tom and most importantly Micks Medal Miles!

As I write this report we are currently still in lockdown, but, there is a light at the end of the tunnel, we have now resumed Monday & Thursday club runs, juniors I believe had their first session back this evening and speedworks is now in the pipeline and should be returning very soon.

On that note all that's left to say is I look forward to seeing you all soon and 'Stay Safe!'

Oh and Frostbite, don't forget the frostbite!!! 😊

Thank you for being amazing! That's me done!