

MALE TRACK ATHLETE OF 2019

Our first award of the evening goes to a new winner and it's fantastic to recognise talent that sometimes goes unnoticed. He quietly goes about his athletics at competitions but his dedication did not go unnoticed by myself last year and it appears others felt the same way, as his name was raised by other members as a worthy recipient.

This second year under 17 male came top of the Dartford rankings last year for the 100m and 200m with his quickest 100m time being achieved in the Kent County Champs in May with 11.46. Considering he was the faster loser from the heats, he narrowly missed a medal, finishing a credible 4th overall. He had a successful weekend that May, showing he can perform in a Championships, as his 200m was also quick, with 23.27 for the heat and 23.24 for 6th in the final.

He competed at all five Southern Athletics Leagues, doing the 100 and 200 at all of them, gaining much needed points as well as being a valuable member of the relay teams. He did three YDL fixtures, two at Mile End and one at Erith and also represented Kent (I believe for the first time) at the Intercounties in Chelmsford.

As well as achieving PB's in the 100m and 200m last year, every one of his 100m races in 2019 was quicker than he has ever run for the previous two seasons. Although not his main event, he also knocked a whopping 5 seconds off his 400m PB, a 54.32 here at Dartford.

You don't achieve improvements such as this without putting in the work and along with consistent performances and loyal dedication to the club, our track athlete of 2019 is Trey McPherson.

FEMALE TRACK ATHLETE OF 2019

I'm at risk of the middle distance crowd pillaging me this year as our female track athlete of 2019 also tops the Dartford rankings for the 100 and 200m. There was a lot of competition for this one with worthy performances from Kat and Maisy in the 800m, Holly in the 15 and steeple chase events and Emily in the 300 and 300mh however our winner this evening, like Trey is a second year under 17.

Saying she topped the Dartford rankings is a small and one of many achievements she had. She PB'ed in the 60m, 100m and 200m and achieved a grade 1 standard in all three of those events.

Her quickest 60m was in Sheffield in the England Athletics U/17 Champs, progressing through two rounds to run 7.70 in the final. She put on her hoops vest for three YDL fixtures, naturally winning the 100m at all three, with two 12.41's and one 12.40 however her quickest time was in the Kent County Champs to clinch gold, in a time of 12.04 and even more unbelievably it was a still race, with no wind assist at all. She achieved the double that weekend, also winning gold in the 200m with her fastest time of the season, a 23.93.

I don't know which is her favourite, but arguably the 200m is her strongest event. There are 461 under 17 female athletes in the UK that are ranked for the 200m, these times range from 27.5 all the way to this Dartford athlete with her 23.93 in the number one ranking spot. To obtain a number one ranking in such a strong event and age category is an amazing achievement.

We had our own version of super Saturday at English Schools, where we had four Dartford athletes achieve four silver medals. Maisy won a hard-fought silver in a dramatic 1500 metres steeplechase, Emily won a silver for a fantastic 300mh race which I shall talk about more later and Kai won a silver for the hammer, which I may also bring up a bit later.

English Schools is a prestigious and well respected event and although our winner achieved the silver, I'm guessing she may have been disappointed not to win gold as like I said, she is ranked number one and unfortunately her heat time was her second fastest time of the season and quicker than the eventual winning time. This does not take away from an excellent season and as a reward for that achievement, she was selected to represent England at the SIAB Schools Competition in Swansea, meaning she could wear an international vest, which is a proud moment for any athlete regardless of age.

Our 2019 female track athlete is Kaliyah Young

MALE FIELD ATHLETE OF 2019

On to the field, I'm not sure how many of you will be aware of our next winner as he was competing under the affiliated Kent Schools banner for a couple of years prior to 2019 however last year we managed to snap him up and what a fantastic asset he has been.

As many of you will be aware we have never had great strength in depth for pole vault however with Gordon at the helm, we now have a little squad of male and female Dartford pole vaulters.

His four best performances came in the last four competitions of the season. On the 28th July he vaulted 3.80, on the 1st September 3.86, the 22nd September 3.93, and on the 18th August in the South of England Champs he vaulted 4.00 exactly for a 2nd place finish. This is a grade 2 standard jump and gave him a 10th place ranking for the year. He also broke the indoor and outdoor club record which Max Hall has held since 2003.

He like our track winner proved himself a club member by competing in all four Youth Development Leagues last year and winning three of the fixtures. He won the English schools Reginal final at Ashford and was subsequently second, only by count back at the English Schools Cup Final at Chelmsford.

Still relatively new to the sport and having progressed leaps and bounds last year, I hope he will continue to achieve success this year.

Our 2019 field athlete is Femi Segun.

FEMALE FIELD ATHLETE OF 2019

For those of you who were here last year, you may remember that the female field trophy is now dedicated to the memory of Kathryn Blackwood who was a Dartford Harrier in the late 80's, early 90's. Kathryn still holds two club records and she herself won the English Schools title in 94 and earned herself age group international vests. She sadly passed away 7 years ago from a brain tumour and we felt it was a fitting tribute to Kathryn and her parents, who were here last year in order to recognise Kathryn's achievements.

I did think this year's winner would be 'de-trophied' after a few years of winning this one, I thought that because I know she had a couple of comps last year where she had no distance recorded however, following looking at all Dartford female field performances, her wrap sheet is still by far on top. There were notable performances from our new female pole vaulters Erin and Grace Thomas, Kaliyah's long jump and Leanne's Javelin were all successful.

The performances of this year's winner still meant she achieved personal bests, club records, grade 1 standards and high UK rankings.

During the indoor season, she jumped 12.43 in the triple jump and 5.60 in the long jump, both for 2nd place in the under 20 age category. These were both club records and gave her a 13th ranking in the long jump and 3rd UK ranking in the indoor triple jump. Her two best outdoor performances for long and triple came in the same weekend competition which was the South Of England Champs at Bedford in June. She won the long jump with a leap of 6.10, the first competition jump over 6m so a fantastic PB and another club record, this also improved from her indoor ranking to a 6th place. She didn't improve on her outdoor ranking and was also ranked 3rd both indoor and out for triple jump.

She had 6 jumps over her 2018 triple jump PB and similarly had 12 improved long jumps just going to show that she is still progressing, even as an under 20. She was selected for the Welsh International, unusually for the long jump but she took on the challenge resulting in a jump of 5.91m, winning for England South, for both a gold medal and a meeting performance.

With a variety of competitions from open meetings, domestic league fixture, County Champs, Intercounties, EA Champs, South of England Champs, a Welsh International, she also got the opportunity to compete at the British Championships in Birmingham. A big occasion, prior to the Worlds in Doha and everyone vying for selection however what a great experience for her to be there competing alongside the best senior athletes in the country.

Our female field athlete of 2019 is Eloise Harvey.

MALE CROSS COUNTRY ATHLETE OF 2019/20

There were a few contenders for male cross country athlete, the likes of Sam Coombes, Chris Biddle, James Rolls, Daniel Moulton and Miles Brierley have had excellent results whether they be in league fixtures, championships, schools or university events.

The eventual winner, an under 15 ran all 4 Kent League fixtures, finishing 17th, 20th, 11th and his best result, 7th at Foots Cray. He had the highest place overall ranking for the boys in 7th place, not bad with 91 individuals taking part this winter. We just missed a team medal for the league, coming in 4th with Miles Brierley and Edward Best finishing 9th and 15th respectfully.

In the Kent Cross Country Championships at Brands Hatch, he finished 13th in a time of 16.05. Although I appreciate the conditions and race may be different, this was a 2 minute improvement and 31 places up on the year before, for the same course and distance. The team in the champs were 5th, this time with 4 to score and Samuel Lloyd in 46th, Edward in 38th and Miles in 20th.

He was selected for Intercounties at Oxford and he finished 40th overall. At the Kent Schools in Dover he finished 18th and the Schools Intercounties at Chemsford, he was 60th in the intermediate boys race. On the 25th January, he ran the South of England Champs at Parliament Hill and over the 4.5 course was 65th out of 317 athletes in a great time of 15.58

I know he runs on the track as well as cross country and as a first year under 17 in 2020, I wish him lots of further success.

Our male cross country athlete is Luke Fenton.

FEMALE CROSS COUNTRY ATHLETE OF 2019/20

Again a few athletes to choose from; Cas Jackson with 3 league fixtures and a great result in the champs, Holly Page with a 5th place finish at Brands Hatch and some excellent results in her uni vest, Lily Gibbs who has made an excellent start in her first season as a harrier and my personal favourite, Gill Manning who ran all 4 fixtures valiantly and earned herself an overall bronze medal for her age category.

However our winner is an under 17 who, in the Kent League finished 16th at Swanley, 12th at Somerhill, 16th at Danson and 21st at Fooks Cray. This gave her a very respectable 6th place finish for the league. Dartford were 4th for the team and the other 2 to score were Lucy Curd in 20th and Maisy Rose in 34th.

In the Kent Cross Country Championships at Brands Hatch, she was 12th overall in a time of 29.05, the highest place Dartford finisher, with Lucy as the next behind her again.

Over the 5k distance in the South Of England Champs she finished 108th in a large field at Parliament Hill in a time of 24.57. Not her PB over this distance but a higher placed finish than last year.

Our female cross country athlete for the 2019/20 season is Rebecca Lloyd.

DARTFORD DASHER 2019

As you are probably aware our young Dartford Dashers are from 5 to 10 years of age and in recognition of our up and coming athletes. This doesn't always mean you have to be the fastest or most talented but it does mean you have to work hard and enjoy your athletics.

Our winner this year has been coming to the track for a while now and many of you won't know him as he started in Vikki's young Wednesday group and then progressed to my dad's Wednesday group. I don't believe a Wednesday athlete has won the award before so this is a first.

Due to their young age there are not a lot of competitions for them but as a club we try & give them a run, jump & throw competition around Easter time & have incorporated another competition for them at our annual Club Championships event in September. This young lad at the age of 6 entered into the Run Jump Throw and ran the 60m in a time of 14.3, winning the event along with it. The long jump he managed 1.80, placing him 4th and he was then 2nd throwing the plastic 400g javelin a distance of 4.65. While I produce all their certificates for the presentations, all the children are given the opportunity to run a 600m. It would appear this is where his forte lies and his coach concurs as he was the 2nd athlete home in a time of 2;50.8 and only beaten by an athlete 2 years his senior and ahead of all the children older than him, of which there were many.

At our Club Champs in, he chose to do 3 track events, confirming that this boy loves to run. Now in the 7 year old category he ran the 150m in 31.5, the 300m in 67.45 and improved his 600m time from April, therefore a PB of 2;48.67. finishing first in his new age group of 7.

Our Dartford Dasher athlete for 2019 is Charlie Edwards.

TEAM AWARD FOR 2019

Our team this year is back to a cross country team which hasn't been the case for a couple of years but having been at the Kent Cross Country Champs in January, I was impressed with the grit, determination and team spirit of this team.

The U/17 men's team which is four to score achieved a bronze medal at Brands Hatch. Individually Daniel finished 25th, George in 30th, Christopher was 32nd and Samuel was 36th. I don't want to embarrass Samuel however as the 4th member of the team, he was 12 minutes behind Christopher and due to his perseverance, they were rewarded with the medal. There was fear he may not finish but it was so lovely to see the team and all the hoops spur him on to finish the cross country, and that was without any knowledge of them knowing they were in the running for a medal and within my other role a County president, I was delighted to see their happy smiles and present them their medals.

During the winter season, Samuel finished 44th overall completing 2 league fixtures, George followed up the County Champs with a 49th place finish at the Kent Schools, Christopher was 24th overall, only missing Somerhill and he also ran in the South of England Champs and Harvel and Shorne 5miles and Daniel finished 15th, 24th, 10th and 16th to give himself an excellent 6th place Kent league standing. He was also 25th in the Schools at Dover and following selection, was 74th at the Intercounties in Oxford.

The 2019 team of the year goes to Daniel Moulton, George Tanner, Christopher Archer and Samuel Crowley-May.

PERPETUAL CROSS COUNTRY CHALLENGE CUP FOR 2019

The perpetual cross country challenge cup is a trophy that has been awarded since 1927 and therefore holds a lot of names and a lot of esteem. It's only for senior men and awarded to the highest place finisher in the Kent County Cross Country Championships, on the proviso that they have also done a minimum of 2 out of 4 league fixtures. Unusually I had to go to the second Dartford finisher this year as Sam who finished a fantastic 20th and the fastest vet 35 home on the day, only did the one Kent League at Sawnley. Both Sam and tonight's winner have both won the prestigious trophy before so hopefully there's no hard feelings.

We had 12 Harriers do the Championship in January and those included Cullen O'Donnell, Andrew Archer, Paul Dawes, Chris Turner, Nick Varley, Reuben Burford, Connor Burford, Tom Manning, Huntley Roberts, Dan Jackson, Chris Biddle and Sam Coombes.

Our winner of the trophy raced all 4 fixtures at Swanley, Somerhill, Foots Cray and Norman Park and finished 51st, 39th, 19th and 35th. He had an overall league standing of 11th at the end of the season, just going to show that it makes a difference if you complete them all.

In the Championships themselves at Brands Hatch, a cold and windy day (or at least it was me not running), he finished 48th in a field of 199.

The winner of the perpetual Cross Country Challenge Cup for this winter is Chris Biddle.

MALE SINGLE PERFORMANCE OF 2019

It would have been remiss of me not to award something to our next winner, bearing in mind within my role as the Kent County president I chose and awarded him a county prize in November and if he's been successful enough to take on all of Kent, he clearly must be a winner here this evening too.

He began the summer 2019 season as a first year under 15 and had another fantastic year throwing the hammer. It's an extremely strong event for Kent at the moment, whereby four of the top five athletes all compete for Kent clubs, with three of those being from Dartford. Noah Wooding and Fadi Baiza are in the 3rd and 4th spot with our winner this evening having the 2nd placed UK ranking.

He put together an impressive string of performances that built throughout the season. He won a silver medal by 8cms ahead of Noah at an exciting English Schools comp, he threw 45.55, which was a PB at the time. He won another silver at the England U15 Championships, this time with a little bit more leeway, winning by 41cms, a throw of 47.67 that time and he also won gold at the South of England U15 Championships in August.

However this award is for single performance and his furthest throw of the season in order to secure the ranking was in his last competition in Hull at the annual Hammer Circle Reunion competition, it's a popular comp where the best of the country turn up, mixed in with lots of well known faces from the past and present. He threw a massive 49.44 metres to finish his season and although I know he wanted 50+, he has another season in the age category to pull it together and hopefully gain that number 1 ranking.

So with every comp last season finishing with a national standard throw, our single performance for a male athlete goes to Kai Barham.

FEMALE SINGLE PERFORMANCE OF 2019 & PETER FIELD MEMORIAL TROPHY FOR HURDLER OF 2019

Our next winner is the recipient of two awards and I made mention in the first half of proceedings that I would come back to her.

This first year under 17 is extremely talented and definitely our most successful hurdler in the club. Last year was her first season over 300 hurdles and she impressively won gold in 43.91 at the County Champs, this was also the first of 3 championship best performances she achieved last year. It was a successful weekend in May, whereby she completed the double by also winning the 300m flat in 39.54.

Other notable 300m's was her 5th place finish in the Under 17 National Championships at Bedford, her indoor Kent County title at Lee Valley and her quickest race of the year, a 39.34 at a Medway Open meeting. This particular performance was a grade 1 standard, a personal best, a club record and gave her a UK ranking of 3rd in the country for an under 17.

Going back to her new competitive event, the 300mh, she also won gold at the Kent Schools, with her second championship record, and then again, another win and record at the intercounties schools. This performance at Erith, was a time of 43.23. This was her fastest race of the season and therefore a PB, another club record and a one place improvement on the flat event, a 2nd UK ranking.

So although one of the trophies awarded to her is for a single performance, you can basically pick any one of them as a standout including her English Schools silver medal, which was a time of 43.68, and this meant she also earned her spot for Swansea and the opportunity to wear an English vest in July. This is where she finished her hurdling season with a time of 44.26.

She's a real talent and by glimpsing some of her training out on the track week in week out, I'm sure she has another successful season on the way.

Our 2019 best performance and hurdler of the year goes to Emily Newnham.

MALE MASTER OF 2019

There are as always a few contenders for the male master of the year and this year they included Richard Nash, who darts about like a lunatic in any event where there might be a gap, David Kemp who achieved masters merit standards and club records in the 100, 150 and 300m, John Fenton who is metres ahead of his vet 60 standards and Colin Bates who has won this shield for the past 3 years and although missed some comps through injury still had fantastic age gradings, rankings, results and beating his own club records in the 800 and 1500.

Our winner this evening is a vet 55 jumper who finished the season ranked 3rd and 4th for the indoor and outdoor high jump, 6th and 9th for the indoor and outdoor long jump, 2nd and 6th for indoor and outdoor triple jump and 19th for the pole vault. He beat his own club record in the indoor triple jump, jumping 10.25 in the English Masters Area Challenge back in February, which is no mean feat to achieve when you're in the upper end of the age category.

His best outdoor high jump was for the Kent title in September, jumping 1.55. He also obtained gold in the pole vault with 2.30, 2nd in the long jump with 4.58 and 3rd in the triple jump with 9.78. He had 2 better vaulting competitions, where he jumped 2.40 in Southern Counties Vets final at Ashford and a 2.45 in our own July open meeting. He also had his best outdoor long jump at the 2nd May vets league fixture, jumping 4.71.

In a field of 6 clubs for the vets final he obtained 2 x 1^{sts}, a 3rd and 4th gaining valuable points. He fills in the southern leagues, usually with a high jump or pole vault should there be a gap and Doug asks.

In the Southern County vet indoor champs he achieved a gold and silver for long jump and high jump and for the South of England Champs he achieved another gold and silver for Triple Jump and High Jump.

The Male master of 2019 goes to my dad, Gary Capon

FEMALE MASTER OF 2019

Our female master has a long event sheet for 2019 and covered 15 events across the southern counties vets fixtures including the final. She gives most things a go and during the league finished 1st or 2nd in everything. She competed in the 100m, 200, 400m, 2k walk, Long Jump, Triple Jump, High Jump and Shot Put

Naturally there was stiff competition with many amazing female vet performances throughout the season such as the ever consistent Teresa, who does the domestic leagues as well as the bigger champs, Lynn Champion also consistently finishing in the top 2 at all her 10 league events however Lynne isn't a first claim harrier and therefore not eligible and the same applies for Hannah Roberts, who again achieved great points for us and of course the Taylor sisters whose dedication to the league is always endless.

So back to our winner, as well wanting to try every event at the vets league, she stepped up and put herself against tougher competition at the Southern League events, which is a big asset when the team is depleted and we need athletes to fill events no one wants to do such as the 100 and 400 hurdles. She had her best triple jump of the season at the Erith fixture, jumping 8.61.

Indoors at the South of England Champs she was 4th in the long jump with 3.87, 3rd in the 60mh in 12.64 and 2nd in the triple jump with 8.00 exactly. She went back to Lee Valley the following week for the Indoor Pentathlon where she finished 4th and improved her hurdles time to 12.44. She must enjoy combined eventing because at the end of the summer season instead of opting for individual masters events for the championships, she elected to do the senior heptathlon instead.

The female master of 2019 is Helen Nyberg-Mitroi

CLUBMAN OF 2019

I am gutted our next winner isn't here this evening as he deserves a lot of credit and the recognition that comes with it. He quietly goes about his business and I wasn't sure if everyone in the room would be aware of him and the work he conducts behind the scenes. Unfortunately, he refused to cancel his holiday to Budapest.

Our clubman of the year, Jack Fox has been part of Dartford Harriers AC for many years, I remember Jack at the very start of his athletics career, he was always the shy but helpful kid and all the mums had a soft spot for him.

Jack's one of the most dedicated members in the club and I remembering him winning the dedicated trophy before I took on the role of presentations officer and he has continued to turn out for competitions year in, year out. In 2019 he did the April, May, July and August SAL's doing 100's, long jumps, high jumps and his main event, triple jump. His best triple jump of the year was at Stevenage, jumping 13.18. He also had County success by winning the indoor triple jump title and outdoors he achieved silver for the triple and bronze for the long jump.

In addition to competing, Jack has taken on some important officer roles and is currently the press secretary and website administrator. As with most organisation websites, they always need refreshing and revitalising over time and Jack did just that with ours. We have a website that shows us in a positive light, with a great design and excellent quality of content. He assists the committee so brilliantly in updating our socials with relevant and sometimes vital information. He never hangs around, no sooner do I ask him to upload an article, news item or club info, it's published and posted. I know the same can be said regardless of whether the information comes from the committee, a coach or team manager. We typically have around 2000 visits a month to our website which has a knock-on effect to communication, we receive approximately half a dozen or so enquiries every week from new wannabe Dartford Harriers.

As we know communication is vital when you have a membership of 100's and Jack is the lynchpin for it, as well as building and maintaining our website, Jack has also been responsible for managing our fantastic profile on social media. Every day our members interact with one another on our club page, members' page and various groups which only assist in fostering a fantastic club and community spirit.

Our clubman of 2019 is very deservedly Jack Fox.

CLUBWOMAN OF 2019

Our female clubwoman of the year has been a member of the club for over 30 years and she is a hard working, dedicated athlete, team manager, coach and general helper at most things.

She coaches weekly with Ali and her voice can usually be heard anywhere on the track on a Thursday. The skills and experience she's gained over her years especially in the field of sprinting, makes her a fantastic example to follow. After I selected this winner, I received some nominations from her athletes for the voted harrier trophy, giving me further vindication that it's a well placed decision. Her athletes outlined her dedication and describe her as a supportive and encouraging coach.

As well as giving back to the sport and our club in coaching, she also successfully team manages the female master's team. We finished 2nd in the league this year against a very strong Tonbridge side and the result secured our spot in the final once again. Anne and Gill successfully managed the team to the final on numerous consecutive occasions and the current manager has kept up that trend during her years as team manager. The final is always a tough affair with the likes of Epson and Ewell, Southampton and Tonbridge but we finished a fantastic 3rd. The winner herself competed in the discus and javelin despite medical advice not to and then having knee surgery just under 2 months later.

She loves competing and always wants to do what's best for the team, even when she shouldn't. She did struggle throughout 2019 with knee and shoulder injuries and it's taken a lot of will power for her to not do things and have other athletes take her spot. Naturally due to her injury and surgery, all her best times came at the very start of the season. She ran very well indoors, as a vet 40 picked up two 1^{sts} for the 60m and 200m in the South of England Champs and a 3rd in the 200m and 4th in the 60m at the British Masters Championships. Outdoors, her best times for the 100m and 200m came in May at the SAL and vets league. She also enjoys javelin and discus and always picks up great points in these events too.

The Vets League was under new management last year and those of us that have been around this league for a while, knows it has its' fair share of problems in certain areas. The committee are now involving the clubs and our winner was of the first to jump at the opportunity to get involved and voice her opinions on behalf of the club and she did just that by travelling over to Tonbridge to get involved in the meeting. She always helps out where she can, quite often with Ty and Amy in tow but whether we need volunteers to officiate, or assistance at the summer club events or Dartford Half she can always be found adding hr contribution to the club.

Our clubwoman of 2019 is Kirstie Taylor.

HARRIER AWARD FOR 2018 (VOTED FOR MY MEMBERS)

Now in its' 10th year of being awarded, the Harrier award, voted for by you is a special one to present.

This year the vote was tied between two members and it just so happens these two athletes have been running together since they were 11 years old, they are both now vets so that gives you an idea of how long they've been part of the hoops. They became best buddies early on and have shown friendly rivalry to each other that time. They are each other's strongest supporter and yet biggest critic.

They have each won many running accolades for the Harriers over the years and their performances from 800m all the way up to the marathon are of the highest quality. I'm not sure what they consider their biggest achievements to be but this winter has gone well for both of them.

Sam Coombes was 20th in the Kent Cross Country Championships and the first vet 35 home and he also won a Joydens Wood 5miler in October. Back in the summer he did some classy 8 and 15 races, gaining valuable points in the SAL and vets league.

Andy Pickett was .1 off his half marathon PB at the Farnborough winter Half, gained 2 second place finishes at the Knowle Park and Swanley KFL's and he was also 38th in a field of 1500 in the Brighton 10k.

Both Sam and Andy ran the Chichester 10k at Goodwood earlier this month, one ran a PB of 31.21 and the other very narrowly missed his PB running 33.15. The race had excellent results for both as having waited a long time, it's a dream come true for them both to have earned an England vest, each aspiring to this goal after a lifetime of dedication to the sport with many highs, lows and injuries thrown in along the way. Andy will run his half-marathon race in Fleet on 15th March and Sam will run his 10K race in Bristol on 3rd May.

Both winners have families with a long history at the club and I know both families are incredibly proud of them as well.

The winners of the 'Harrier' Trophy are Sam Coombes and Andy Pickett.

CLOSING

So that's pretty much it for the evening, I'd like to say a big thank you to the main contributors of the evening, my fellow committee members Jon and dad and of course my lovely mum for sorting the food and beverages.

Having looked back over the records I'm pretty sure this is my 10th year as your host of this evening and as we are now only 2 years away from our centenary, I'd really like to hear some of your ideas to freshen up the event or any other suggestions for the big Dartford Harrier birthday but I'll leave it there for now, feel free to eat and drink up anything that's left and then have a safe journey home.

Good night.