

HAA President's Report 2018/19

Being asked to be President of Hampshire Athletics for 2018/19 came as a surprise and an honour to me. It has been an eye-opener as to how much work is done by the members of the Executive Committee and how rapidly the conduct of business of county athletics would grind to a halt without them. Ladies and gentlemen of the Executive, "Take a bow".

Of course, every club has its own stalwarts without whom the clubs would cease to exist. They too deserve recognition and the thanks of all their members. I am sure that their efforts are duly recognised.

I have also had the opportunity to stand back from official duties and observe just how many officials turn out week after week - in many cases several times a week. Of course, they may get the occasional decision wrong but, I have to say, not very often. They deserve, and should receive, everyone's respect for their dedication.

And lastly, the athletes themselves, for whom the whole edifice exists. One of the pleasures of being President was being able to present the winners and placed athletes with their medals. But athletics is not just about medal winners – it is about improvement and an individual achieving the best that they can do. There is room for everyone.

I cannot end this report without expressing my sadness at the loss this past year of Christine Weeks who was the face of track and field championships for as long as I can remember and of my old university friend Geoff Cunliffe, much respected for his work in schools' athletics in Hampshire for 28 years. They will be greatly missed. I have to add our regrets at the passing of Gordon Chaffey notified to us only this evening.

May I wish Stan Burton well for his term of office as my successor.

Terry Moffatt

8th March 2019