

IBM Club London West - Chairman's report to the 2019 AGM

Through all the changes in 2017 with new subscription rates and the risk of declining membership, we appear to have stemmed any substantial drop-off through 2018. This is validation to the increased range of activities offered to members; traditional such as theatre, football and sailing, Royal Ascot and increasingly popular London Walks, were abetted by Windsor Brewery tour, Rolling Stones concert, Bedfont BBQ and the literally breathtaking i-fly. Plans for 2019 don't show any signs of slowing down with a considerable range of new activities planned and drawing interest.

Of course the overall objective is to encourage more active members and I still feel we need the support of IBM HR to publicise to the wider IBM population, who still are often unaware of the benefits of their club.

It is without remorse that I repeat every year my thanks for the hard work of the committee, without which none of this would be possible. They continue to find new things to keep you entertained and engaged as members and at often fantastic prices.

I'd like to specifically call out the support of Gary Glazerman, who received multiple accolades from members with the recent revamp of our website and of course, our treasurer Andrew Craig, who steers us around the minefield of IBM process and keeps us in the black financially. Carole Brougham does a sterling job as club secretary and new member Duncan Bond has picked up the sailing remit and has added a bunch of new ideas for club activity. I can't emphasise enough that without this small team of volunteers, there would be no IBM London West club.

The IBM workforce continues to decline, although not as severely as in recent years, but we still need to spread the word and make the club welcome to new members. Tell your colleagues, and bring new ideas to us, or better still, come and join the committee.

2019 doesn't show any signs of slowing up, with new activity lined up and already proving popular. We look forward to bringing another year of great events to IBM Club members.

Brendan McGuire
IBM Club London West Chair
May 2019

IBM Club London West –Treasurer's report to the 2019 AGM

2018 was the first full year of membership subscriptions at the increased rate of 50p per week, versus the historic 5p per week. Including a payment for the last quarter of 2017, IBM Club London West received £19,086 of subscriptions (£1,785 in 2017).

Together with the grant of £13,306 (£18,326 in 2017) and carried forward funds of £5,820, this meant we had £35,000 (£25,000 in 2017) to spend on activities for our 681 members (770 in 2017) and still be able to end the year above our reserves target of £3,500.

Shows section bought 900 tickets for its 118 members and spent £20,000 subsidising and administering these tickets, an average benefit of £22 per ticket and £166 per member.

Football was the next most active area with a net subsidy of £2,000 used to the benefit of 25 members taking part in these activities, a subsidy per member of £80.

Sailing Section membership at 10 continues to be below the section target of 20 and with a net subsidy of £1,750 excluding depreciation, was £175 per member. More members are needed in 2019 or the section needs to cut its costs by selling boats.

There were many family and social events: Location BBQ and Christmas meal; visits to Brooklands, Farnborough Airshow, Goodwood Revival, Kew Gardens, Royal Ascot, Windsor Horse Show; music at Reading Festival and by the Rolling Stones; walks around Bank, Knightsbridge and Chiswick; and for the adventurous to iFly indoor sky diving and Windsor brewery. These events used £5,700 net subsidy and were attended by over 475 members and guests in total, a subsidy of £12 per participant. The average subsidy during the year on all activities was 49%.

The year ended with a closing balance (adjusted for accruals) of £4,323, above our minimum reserve of £3,500, and below our allowed maximum of £8,490.

My thanks to all event organisers and sub-section leaders for their effective planning and diligent record keeping which makes the role of the Club Treasurer quite straight forward.

Andrew Craig
IBM Club London West Treasurer
May 2019