

IBM Club London West - Chairman's report to the 2020 AGM

It is a great credit to the IBM Club London West committee that we continue to develop new opportunities for our members. The range of events offered in 2019 was as good as it gets. Apart from the regular and very popular activities - sailing, football, theatre and London walks - we added variety: 'virtual' skydiving, a new dining experience, a comedy evening, The Eagles (farewell?) tour and several child-friendly activities that parents can use as entertainment during half term. After a few years' absence, the re-introduction of an overseas trip proved extremely popular as did the addition of the ATP tennis at Excel and the Grand Prix at Silverstone. That we've managed to do this and keep the membership engaged is no mean feat as IBM continues to lose employees and also makes it difficult to promote the club to the those who remain or join.

Of course, none of this is possible without the dedication of the committee who continue to deliver all of this in their free time. I certainly appreciate the hard work and hope that the wider membership equally appreciates what goes on in the background; researching, booking, paying for, distributing tickets and managing budgets are all part of the service of delivering great value-for-money activities for IBM club members.

Your feedback tells us that we're on the right track, so please continue to tell us what you think of your events, send us photographs and make recommendations for new activities.

The committee that makes this happen, without whom the club would simply not operate, warrant a special mention; treasurer Andrew Craig, who runs our finance, keeps us in the black and also out of trouble, secretary Carole Brougham, web guru Gary Glazerman, theatre empresario, Paul Welstead and the people who organise copious other events; Harvey Schonfeld, Sylvia Dimilo, Duncan Bond and Darshan Kent.

We look forward to making 2020 another memorable year.

Brendan McGuire
IBM Club London West Chair
April 2020

IBM Club London West – Treasurer’s report to the 2020 AGM

IBM Club London West is the fourth largest employee club in the UK with about 10% of total club membership and receiving 10% of overall club funding. In 2019 this amounted to a grant of £14,000 to which £14,000 of members subscriptions was added giving us £28,000 to spend to the benefit of our 606 members (681 in 2018).

Shows section bought 568 tickets for its 130 members and spent £13,700 subsidising and administering these tickets, an average benefit of £24 per ticket and £105 per member. Many thanks to our shows administrator Paul Welstead for a great and varied programme of events to choose from.

Football was the next most active area with a net subsidy of £1,450 used to the benefit of 25 members taking part in these activities, a subsidy per member of £58. Brendan McGuire and Duncan Bond continue to run this subsection.

Sailing Section membership reached 9 by year end. To contain costs, the windsurfing equipment was sold and one of the double hander boats was moth-balled at the club, available for future use if the section grows again. The net subsidy of £730 excluding depreciation was £80 per member. Duncan Bond and Andrew Craig ran this again.

2020 also saw the welcome return of a very successful trip to Prague led by Harvey Schonfeld. 20 people attended at an overall subsidy of £2,200, £110 per attendee.

There were many family, social and sporting events during 2019:

- Sporting visits to the Silverstone Grand Prix and ATP Tennis at Excel (Duncan Bond) and Royal Ascot (Darshan Kent);
- Walks around Chelsea, Fitzrovia and Marylebone (Brendan McGuire)
- Music at an Eagles concert (Paul Welstead);
- A location barbecue and Christmas meal (Brendan McGuire);
- A dinner with dancing at Sarastro, a comedy evening in Soho (Andrew Craig);
- and for the adventurous another visit to the iFly indoor sky diving centre in Basingstoke (Gary Glazerman).

These events used £7,000 net subsidy and were attended by 440 members and guests in total, a subsidy of £16 per participant. The average subsidy during the year on all activities was 32%.

The year ended with a closing balance (adjusted for accruals) of £7,188, safely above our minimum reserve of £3,500, and well below our allowed maximum of £10,221.

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 very easy.

Andrew Craig
IBM Club London West Treasurer
April 2020