

2024 President's Report

What a wonderful year it has been!

It has been a pleasure to serve as the MAWA President in this, our 50th anniversary year. I have been well-supported by past-president, Richard Blurton, secretary Gillian Young, treasurer Gary Fisher, vice-president Silke Peglow and committee members John Fisher, Karyn Tolardo and Jason Kell.

Our club is run by volunteers but operates so professionally. This professionalism is a reflection of just how passionate our members are about their role in our club. Lynne Schickert becoming a Member of the Order of Australia exemplifies the volunteering spirit which runs through our club.

We finish this membership year in a strong financial position. This has enabled us to maintain membership fees at the same rate as last year. We have also maintained our membership numbers at around 650, which is great to see.

We have seen some fantastic records set by members this year but just as importantly, we have members who work hard week by week to strive for their best. The State Championships, held in perfect conditions, were a great success, albeit with slightly reduced numbers. We sent a strong team to the National Championships in Hobart where it was great to see some fantastic results. I am writing this before the World Championships but with about 20 WA athletes heading off, I am looking forward to hearing about their achievements.

Our Sunday run program, unique to WA Masters, has continued to be very well supported. We have seen some new members take on various roles including in the results team and as race directors. The Sunday runs are resource intensive so we can always have more support but they are a great way of promoting participation in our club.

A highlight this year was the celebration run on 21 April (great to see some of our track members venture out on the road) and the wonderful sundowner on 9 June.

We are reviving the 1 hour run which will be held this year on 13 October. If there is good interest, we will look at making this an annual event.

The committee is keen to see the Patron's Trophy reinvigorated. While we have always had passionate participants, interest has waned so we are looking towards a launch event to bring the multi-event format to everyone's attention.

Rochelle Airey
President