

Dear Striders

I'm unable to attend the AGM so I thought I'd circulate an update on where things are with the website.

The website has been in its current form with a few changes for the last 10 years. It is a custom website and requires an interesting mixture of skills and knowledge to maintain it. This means the web officer role is traditionally unchallenged (I believe I'm the fourth in 30 years), which can be viewed as both a blessing and a curse. I would like to stand down from the role at some point and would welcome a challenger but this probably isn't the year to do it.

I have been looking into migrating the website to a different platform (Wordpress). This would have three main benefits:

1. It would allow more people to maintain and contribute to the informational pages, such as Fell, Road, Track, C25K, Club Records, Kit, Bus, etc.
2. It would allow more people to publish reports.
3. The website could ultimately be maintained by someone with more general IT knowledge.

I'm working on a new version of the website that I will develop in parallel with the existing website. I don't intend to develop any new ideas on the existing website beyond publishing reports and keeping things like the GP and XC fixtures up to date. As time goes on I'll be sounding out more people for ideas and contributions to the new website.

In the meantime I encourage you all to send in race reports, especially new members. It's not a dark art and there is no catch. You can write pretty much anything you like, how you like. A single paragraph and photo is fine. It's never too late to send in a race report. Send it to:

website@elvet-striders.org.uk

The Elvet Striders website is a rare beast; an eclectic mixture of race reports from a diverse bunch of runners spanning 10 years. If you look around you'll be hard pushed to find another running club that has such a quirky repository of interesting race reports. The website is widely read outside the club. For a rather melancholy chunk of Strider history you need only search the website for 'Dave Parry' to discover how poignant this archive can turn out to be.

It is rare for an event organiser to be name-checked so many times and to stamp their unique brand over so many races.

Best Wishes

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Dougie