

Chairman's report to 2018 PAM AGM.

The metamorphosis of the PAM continues apace, in many respects due to the dedicated work of the PAM committee for which, as Chairman, I sincerely thank them for.

The move to the Old Thorns continues to hold open the door to new spectrae of activity that are creating the encouraging, re-invigoration of George Makey's crusade that he instigated 44 years ago.

The PAM format is much changed and will have to continue to be so to accommodate the needs that are essential in maintaining the aims of the PAM to provide as many powered wheelchairs as possible for handicapped/disabled youngsters.

Much progress in developing the new look PAM has occurred thro' a lot of hard work by Jackie Alliss and John Slocombe, happily aided by the opportunity of 'being on the spot' to increase the numbers of golfers taking or wanting to take part in the PAM and as Jackie said last year, giving us the 'doubtful' privilege of being possibly over-subscribed in future PAMs.

For many years the PAM enjoyed support from our Irish colleagues when we were based in the Kingdom of Fife; they contributed much and were a very welcome part of the PAM's annual celebration.

The initiative of Peter in approaching Michael Moss in Ireland to explore the possibilities of an Irish influence being restored as part of the PAM scene, has resulted in the creation of the PAIM; Peter, Jackie and John Slocombe contributing much of the work along with Michael, to achieve this.

This 're-union' is massively encouraging and will be both celebrated and consolidated at the 2019 Royal Portrush Open Championship when several chairs will be presented by the PAM and PAIM to Irish children from both sides of a hopefully, soft border. I have had the assurance from Rhodri Price that the R&A will do all they can to ensure a successful presentation of the powered wheelchairs at Royal Portrush.

Much has gone on throughout the year regarding the provision of chairs by the Clubs and Societies that support the PAM crusade, many stalwart supporters are still to the fore, indeed some from the very beginning of George Makey's endeavours eg. Helsby GC, BTF, Moseley GC. and ^{individuals} ~~individuals~~ such as ~~Pepe~~ Polio and Ivor Povey; also it is wonderful to welcome back the Irish connection to the family.

Ray Feldwick's invaluable expertise keeps everything financially accurate and ensures our following the Charity Commission's strict rule book, to the letter – we are, as always, hugely indebted to him.

Without exception, every member of the committee has contributed to the continuing increased momentum that pertains; much credit is due to Phil Davies for his expert input as our Webmaster, undoubtedly, we have a website to be immensely proud of.

The smooth running of child and chair selection and the often complex arrangements to get the youngsters and their families to the presentations, have been and are, very efficiently conducted by Eric Malkin, the PAM is extremely fortunate to have someone of such experience and knowledge supervising this most important aspect of our work.

The 'Joke Master' (some are quite funny !) member of the present committee, is the inimitable Joe Stephens, one of the threesome who, at the turn of the century, met with Sunrise Medical to negotiate successfully, SM's substantial sponsorship that was badly needed to keep the PAM on track: his sage committee presence has always and continues to be, invaluable.

Frances Dowty our Chief Scribe besides turning out excellent Minutes, is a tireless worker covering all sorts of issues as a valuable member of the Alliss- Slocombe -Dowty combine and the PAM is enormously indebted to her.

So there it is, another successful PAM year, again forecasting immense potential for the future.

A Patron of legend with a dedicated committee allied to the undying support, generosity and compassion from many of the large family of UK and Irish Golfers, makes it all possible.

IHM. 19/09/18.