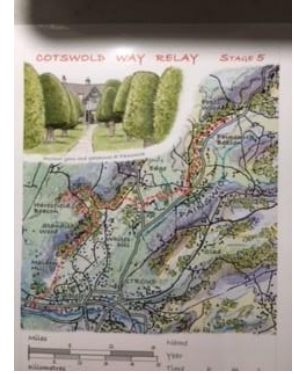


Cotswold Relay – The Support Teams Perspective

The record breaking long hot summer seems such a long time ago, now that the autumn leaves are falling and Halloween is just around the corner.

However, it's nice to reflect on past events within the club, with once such key event being the annual Cotswold Relay.

Here's a brief reflection from Rachael Whitlock, our Club Treasurer on the day's events from a support teams' perspective – without their help we would struggle to get these events and participate so it's much appreciated.



On 2nd July the Hogweed Trotters entered 2 teams into the Cotswold Way Relay.

This event sees a team of 10 people running the entire length of the Cotswold Way in a single day, over 100 miles.

Each section varies between approximately 6 to 12 miles of mostly off-road hilly terrain, following the stunning Cotswold Way and the views are spectacular.

Key to ensuring all our runners arrive at the start line on time for their particular leg, is a whole army of support who drive people to and from the Relay and make sure they get home safely for a well-deserved soak in the bath!

I dutifully did my bit by driving fellow runners to the start point, accompanied by my faithful Labrador Huggy, and waiting in the rain (yes there was rain in July) for them to finish. This service also included a supply of drinks, dry clothes and post run snacks – let's face it, the runners needed it.



We finished off the day by having a BBQ for all Hogweeds Members at Horton Village Hall. While I was doing my driving duties, other committee members made trips to Tesco for BBQ food, ensured the BBQ was lit and ready to cook by 6pm and provided a running themed soundtrack – with the biggest hit of the year – *Running Up That Hill* by Kate Bush rather aptly blasting out of the speakers!

The biggest challenge was working out just how much food our hungry runners would need after tackling the relay and making sure Huggy got his well-deserved snack too!

It was a fantastic team effort by runners and support team and a great time was had by all.