

Chairmans Report

By John A. Ross (Chairman Sep-2023-Sep-2024)

What a year it has been. It was a very rocky start while I found my feet and absorbed all of the previous activities and goings and was lucky enough to be assisted by some very helpful supporters and team members.

During the year we had initiated a lot of changes with some on a trial basis as the results were an unknown entity.

The new monthly meeting schedule we adopted to try and accelerate decision making was a partial success, modified and fully embraced is still the way forward to become more dynamic in our current world of everyone demanding things by return. We can look back many years and see the same items on the agenda with only result more meetings. Some changes to optimise the constructive elements and we should have a winner.

The monthly mailings were an example where we moved to unfamiliar territory in delivery of content to members and in the latter months we had started to include advertiser spaces to add value to our offerings as well as including delivery of spares parts lists as we try and promote selling the vast amount of stock we had acquired from Speedy Spares thanks to Bob Allan.

This investment was huge so of course we were looking to starting to recoup as soon as we can. All these efforts are down to one man which I continue to mention as if we do not, we shall take it for granted.

With the demise of speedy spares we will need to now rethink strategy as regards advertising revenues for the longer term and how that affects the status quo on membership activities paying for themselves as costs have sky rocketed beyond sensible and that will need to be addressed. We have reluctantly started to do this with an increase in dues this year and those rises will need to continue. We have a project underway to map and model these losses in income and relate to either advertising targets or as a last resort, membership fee increases.

Membership wise we have moved into a more modern era with internet based applications and self service putting membership in reach of anyone 24/7

National wise what a fantastic event this year and the first one I have attended since Hatton World pre-pandemic. Top efforts by the team and the whole event was a total credit to all the hard work they put in. I had never been to a National before that cried "please come to the next one to me" but now I actually get it, like an actor once said, I will be back 😊

I would like to thank the committee and management team for all their help and support during my time and wish the new team the very best of luck.

John A Ross

Chairman

The Imp Club Limited