Last year my closing remarks were we can only get better. This year I can open with I told you so.

Our second year as a club has, for me, been even more momentus than our first year and as I forecast in last year's report more successful.

First I would like to say that, unlike my last report when I was getting first bite of the cherry, I stopped others from making their comments I shall just dwell on what I considered were highlights for myself (and hopefully the club). Starting with our first track season. I think we did very well, we had quite a few wins in the individual events and Joanne Walker finished our top female and Brian Scott our top male athlete.

There were a few hiccups over transport which I hope can be ironed out before the new track season starts.

If I have only briefly mentioned the track season I hope that I do not upset any members, the track is just as important as the road and cross country and putting this report together in the winter tends to dim my memory of track events. I do know however that this new season will open up a new horizon for the young male members as we have entered the Giro League for the first time and this covers all track and field events.

This year has also seen another change in memberships with 176 full members plus 40 youngsters. We have had over 200 through our books although 40 members did not renew membership. We have had only one official resignation.

We have had lots of outings as a club to different parts of the country and for me the York Run will stay with me as the most pleasurable of my life. This was the first time I had experienced what it was all about and running round the course I couldn't for the life of me understand what the hell I was doing spluttering and choking whilst watching small children fly past me with ease (Adding insult to injury). I would like to thank the club for their support because when I had finished I knew then what it was all about. I would also like to thank Margaret Levy for taking me round, I did not have the breath to reply to her at the time.

We had quite a lot of athletes in the Great North Run in which we competed for the first time as New Marske Harriers. I think it was a good day out for all the club. I know it was for me personally and for those who were waiting at the finishing line I hope my finishing stagger did not upset you too much (I had not touched the Newcastle Brown Ale nor was I incontinent, it was sweat).

Every time we went away to a run after the York I really enjoyed both the races and the company of the people who work with the club and I sincerely hope that everyone felt likewise.

I have not covered every outing I hope that through the evening some other reports might mention runs that they enjoyed and stress that these were just personal to myself.

I would like to now move on to the **Presentation Evening.**

This was a great success and if every one we have is as good we will not go far wrong. I do not know who we will be getting this year but they will have to be good to compete with David Sharpe and Jimmy Hedley.

We had our first Road Races and Pie and Pea in July and again we had a good turn out inspite of the rain!

This was the prelude to our Sponsored Race in September which was attended by over 300 athletes and to me was another success for our club as every one worked so hard to make it so.

I would like a special thank you to Harry and Yvonne Gamble Thompson who did a lot of unseen work. Working into the night to make sure that everything was correct also Graham Kennedy who nearly got the sack for putting more hours into our programme at work than he did for B.O.C. A great deal of hard work goes into organising a run and I hope that our club members appreciate this. We made over £300 profit and this went into club funds.

On the subject of funds I would like to thank all our committee and supporters for a years hard work raising these for without finance our club could not function.

Our club believes that to attend races, etc.. is of vital importance therefore most of our funds are taken by transport costs.

I would like to now come right up to date with some comments on the present N.Y.S.D. without upsetting too many other reports.

I must say that standing at Stewarts Park on our first cross country meeting in the very first race New Marske Harriers had their very first win in the Colts Race. This was achieved by young Brian Scott. The feeling was indescribable, tears were in my eyes and I felt then that we have arrived as a force to be reckoned with. This to me was the fruit for all the hard work that had been put into the club both from the athletes and coaches. Here I would like to thank Tom and Graham who I know was as proud as I was, indeed our whole club was lifted and it is still working for us because Brian Scott is leading the individual and the team lying first in the league after 5 runs.

On progress for the future during the season we are hoping the track which we applied for could be a reality.

We are also interested in purchasing the Jubilee Hall which could be our permanent home. We should know more about these two very promising aspects for our club in the coming season.

In conclusion after such a thrilling start to the season I sincerely hope we can keep the momentum going through to the end of this season and when we get to Darlington we will have plenty to celebrate.

Once again, thank you to all our committee, supporters and athletes for making our club such a great success.