

WORLDS OLDEST CONTINUOUS PRAM RACE SINCE 1946.

The PAGHAM PRAM RACE.

CHAIRMANS STATEMENT 2016. ANNUAL REPORT.

In recent years, The Pagham Pram Race and its Committee have undergone many changes, Expanding far beyond its humble beginnings of 1946. Six, then recently returned home and demobbed local Servicemen decided to challenge each other, to a 3 Mile race Race around the 3 local village Pubs. Some enterprising local ladies, baked a large cake as the prize.

It was particularly significant therefore, that 2015, our 70th Anniversary, was recognized by The Ladies of the Bognor " Sugarcraft guild , making a incredible, large and detailed Cake to represent the race , its many regular character's and many times participants. Equally, many Military events were remembered in 2015 as well as local Pagham service personal, who never came home.!

From these humble beginnings, the event has gradually grown year by year to the extent you saw in 2015 . The race has now become so well established , to the extent it has now become a local " Right of Passage " with 3rd generation (soon 4th) of Family members taking part. 2015 saw record numbers of spectators estimated at 6500 and 150 competitors.!

The Pagham Pram Race Committee have moved with modern times to incorporate steady expansion over the years. This , to comply with the many Safety rules and seeking to maintain good relations with the Local Authorities, the Police and Public Liability Insurance, to name a few. At the same time, successfully managing event costs, to a minimum.

This year saw more " year on year" record figures and allowed us to give away our greatest amount ever, of a Sum of and in excess of £ 15,000 . We do of course, and always will, strictly adhere to our principle of helping local Pagham based smaller community based groups and good causes, helping or assisting the local Young and Old alike .

This years increase in Income came from our various annual Fund raising events including Bingo events, a Horse racing event and donations The most significant increase in input was by the local Business Community and their Sponsorship, a trend we plan to expand. As with all charitable groups, we seek to expand and grow. We have several new young committee members who keep us in touch with modern trends, social media's and the like. In addition We are balanced by several older, experienced Committee members, mainly local Business Men and Women, all contributing, experience, and a balanced range of Idea's and Skills.

As with all local events we are dependent on the goodwill of the village and support of all at our various annual events . We also thank the many helpers who just turn up on Boxing day to assist, many doing the same job, year in year out. To you all, we offer our grateful thanks, it would not be possible without you.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT.
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I joined the original Pagham Pram Race Committee in 1977 as a Committee member and became Chairman many years ago following in the illustrious footsteps of hugely popular Geoff Evans, who had run the committee for many years prior. Since that time, I set about forming an enlarged committee and a plan for the future. Since that time, the Pram race has expanded significantly. I can hardly believe that was 40 years ago. However much was achieved with the Aid of a brilliant committee, with whom, it was a pleasure to serve. I have every confidence in endorsing the annual accounts for the year 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016 and commend them to the committee for formal approval.

I feel that the time has now come for me to step aside from the various responsibilities of Chairman and make way for a new Appointment. I also wish to follow an expanding new voluntary civil interest, for which, I and others, had the recent Honour to receive The Queens award. I also wish to spend much more time with Family and Five fast growing Grand Children. In addition other reasons, some of you may be aware.

I made a formal announcement at the end of Pagham Pram Race Presentation Night on 23rd February 2016 that I would formally step down with effect from the 31st March, 2016 the end of the current Financial year. It also gives great pleasure to learn of the committees choice, to appoint Mr Micheal Warren, a current long serving committee member, as well as an experienced and much respected local business man. I have much confidence in fully endorsing their choice.

In conclusion, I take again this opportunity to thank you all for the support over the years And again, my brilliant committee members, all. In addition, much continuing success for the future.

Kind regards.

TIM HOLLAND. Former Chairman.
Pagham Pram Race. Committee.

P.S. Since tendering my formal resignation, I have received an invitation from the new chairman to remain as a "Consultant" in the form of a Vice President and to attend the Committee meetings, as able. To which, I have informally accepted. Thank you.

