

## SECRETARY REPORT AGM 2019 – Karen Lewis

Officially I am due to take over the position of QO Secretary following the AGM on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2019. However, Rosie Wych was unable to attend the last meeting and I performed the secretary duties during the meeting.

I see QO, as with many club, experiencing more and more issues with getting permission to hold events. The Forestry Commissioner / AONB / Owners etc seem to be less accommodating than they were. There is more emphasis on protection of wild life and we need to address this issue in some way. Perhaps there needs to be some expert help / training / knowledge transfer of some kind so that we can reduce the impact.

I am still in the 'infant' stage with regards orienteering – so I tend to sit and listen (hopefully learn). I am willing, eager and want to see QO success. It also helps that I thoroughly enjoy orienteering.

We need to encourage more members to step up and assist. There still seems to be the few doing a lot of work. With more assistance we would all be able to assist with less and enjoy more of the actual orienteering.

We have a brilliant website. It is well maintained by Jeff. This is the QO shop window and we need to support this area more. It is very important.

I am not a runner. I enjoy the technically difficult areas (preferably in a wood) which slow the runners down. I took to orienteering because I wanted to tax my grey cells as well as get fresh air and some exercise. I might not be the future elite orienteer but I may make up a demographic that as a club we need to explore.

Martin recently came back from the 'Chase the Castles' orienteering event full of enthusiasm for the indoor event. I have studied his map and I am really impressed – it is technically difficult and definitely stumped a great deal. Is this an area of orienteering that QO could explore. There seems to be many advantages to this type of orienteering – not affected by the weather, easier to map and not affected by seasons etc.