

**ANNUAL REPORT TO 31 MARCH 2019**

The Board met three times – 17 April, 1 July 2018, 13 November (also AGM) with preceding Steering Group meetings enabling effective reporting and planning with Inhouse who run the Arena programme. The collaboration is working well with Inhouse undertaking regular maintenance and some improvements, notably in electrical supply, in the service building and surrounding area. The 2018 programme from May, when the 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Langside was celebrated with a large scale community event, to Moira's Run (28 October) and a firework display (5 November) attracted over 16,000. Most were free admission events with diverse family audiences and participants while nine were ticketed. A liaison meeting with Glasgow City Council officers in December reviewed the past year's events and resolved minor problems that had arisen.

The principal issue affecting the long term future of the Arena is the long-running, still incomplete negotiation over the long promised lease for the Arena site. An agreement with Glasgow City Council giving QPA Ltd some security of tenure, unlike the present Permission to Use arrangement, will be essential for fundraising to develop the site facilities and increase its financial viability by attracting some commercial users to offset the community events. Issues surrounding the requirement of the leasee to have full public liability insurance 24/7 throughout the year pose serious operational difficulties for a public open site within a city park over which QPA has no control or presence other than on event days and for periodic site inspection and maintenance.

The Board has been giving some consideration to a possible revision of its Constitution to better meet the interests and activities of the Board. Should revision be considered desirable these will be put to the membership in due course. The Board membership is unchanged and thanks are due to all for their support. Our auditor Mark Ballantine stepped down as a result of ill health and has been succeeded by David Samuels.



Evelyn Silber  
Chair