

Wirral Golden Girls in Merseyside Relays

The Under 15 Girls won the Merseyside Road Relay Championships run in Sefton Park as part of the North West Counties relays. The team were given a flying start as Sophie Tarver led the first stage home in what proved to be the second fastest time of the race. On leg two, Heather Nuttall dropped to third overall but increased the lead over Liverpool Harriers, the nearest Merseyside challengers. The final lap saw Aileen Kearney hold on to third and hold off the Liverpool charge to ensure the trio took the gold medals. The two teams ahead of them, Vale Royal and Blackpool went on to finish 1st and 3rd in the Northern at Birchwood the following week

Best of the rest was silver for both U17 teams. For the Women, Emily Kearney came in 4th overall on leg 1, 35 seconds behind Liverpool Harriers. On leg 2, Fiona Nuttall ran the fastest Wirral time and moved the team to 3rd, but lost some ground on the Harriers. Lauren Brett took over half a minute out of the Harriers runner on the final stage but had to settle for the silver medals and a meritorious third overall in a race won by a strong trio from the Cheshire club, Vale Royal, who like their U15 team, went on to a comfortable win in the Northern.



Left to right: Sophie Tarver. Heather Nuttall and Aileen Kearney

Photo: Graham Patterson

The U17 Mens team of Richard Evans, Nathan Schofield and Kieran Morgan finished a distant second to the overall winners, Liverpool Harriers, resisting a late charge from Southport Waterloo.

With most of the U13 and U15 Boys running for their schools, the only other medals crossing the Mersey were the bronze won by the Senior Women. They were given a solid start by Sarah Kearney whose 10th place overall was the 14th fastest from the 93 took part and put them second Merseyside team behind Southport Waterloo. Charlotte O'Connell moved them up to 8th, with Liverpool Harriers closing the gap to 34 seconds. Amy Bartley was unable to hold off the Harriers on the last leg as both teams closed on a fading Southport. The Senior Men mustered only one team. For the record, the four who kept the flag flying, Xavier Desse, Kevin Buxton, Peter Scarrett and Mark Morris, finished 8th Merseyside club.

A good turn-out in the Northern Road Relays at Birchwood with two teams in U13 to U17 male age groups, was not enough to yield any medals. The U15 Boys moved through well to finish 8th, James Taylor producing their fastest time on the final leg, with the B team 19th. The U15 Girls and U17 Womens teams from the County race both finished in a creditable 8th place. Sophie Tarver again brought the U15 Girls team home first on the opening stage with the fourth fastest overall time. The U13 Boys were 15th and 20th, while the U17 Men finished 12th and 27th.

The Senior Men got off to a reasonable start as Phil Davies-Peerless produced their fastest time on the first stage. However, weakened by the absence of Xavier Desse and Alan Woods, they struggled to capitalise on this and ended up 50th, with the consolation of beating St Helens Sutton and Wallasey to be the 5th Merseyside club home, technically 4th as the LPS team included Lancashire runners. The Senior Womens team melted away before the day, but Sarah Kearney ran the opening lap, ending up 19th in a time which was 32nd out of the 221 competitors on the day.

London Marathon, 2012

We have four places in the London Marathon to distribute to members. To qualify for the initial distribution of places, you must have competed for the club on at least three occasions between Oct 15th and Dec 12th in the Liverpool & District Cross Country League, the Manchester Area Cross Country league or the Borders Road Running League. The dates of the 9 events available are in the list on the right. If there are more than four applicants the lucky four will be selected by a draw.

Contact Leo Carroll or add your name to the list in the club house if you would like to be considered. While these places are guaranteed, the recipients will have to pay the standard entry fee. They will be distributed before Christmas in good time to meet the entry closing date of January 13th.

Schools Cross Country Races

Nearly 150 runners took part in our Schools Cross Country races in Arrowe Park on Oct 1st. Juliet Hodder (Poulton Lanslyn) and Sam Cross (Prenton Primary) won the U11 races with Redcourt dominating the U11 team races.

Beth Foster (U13, B'head High), Sophie Tarver (U15, Wirral Girls) and Emily Kearney (U18, Upton Hall) took the older girls races. The U13 team from Upton Hall were the only team to close.

St Anselm's (U12 and U18) and Calday (U13 and U15) shared the Boys team honours, but Richard Evans (Kingsmead) denied them a clean sweep of the individual medals with a comfortable win in the U18 race. For St Anselm's, Ieuan Kearney and Dominic Thomas won the younger age groups, while James Taylor of Calday took the U15 gold.

The full results are on the club web site. Thanks to all the members who helped organise the event, particularly Norman Waterson who acted as Race Secretary and Nick Lindesay who organised the marshalls and the course set-up.

Multi-terrain League – Overall results

The popular Multi-terrain series saw the Mens dominance seriously challenged by Wallasey AC. We beat them comfortably in the end for the top spot but they won the battle of the B to E teams. The situation was very different in the Womens competition in which we had an over-whelming victory, scoring less than 10 every race with the C team beating all the B teams from other clubs..

The U15 members mopped up the Young Athletes race with Niall Flanagan, Will Patterson and Charlie Quinn for the Boys and Heather Nuttall, Aileen Kearney and Nicola Harris for the Girls. In the U20s, Phil Robertson won the Mens competition from Richard Evans, while Emily Kearney, Lauren Brett and Fions Nuttall topped the Womens ranking.

Xavier Desse won the Mens O40 and was 2nd overall. Lisa Grantham won all four races to top the Womens U40 and Overall categories with Sarah Kearney registering three 2nds and a 3rd the runner-up. Jane Fraser was 2nd in the O50. In the Mens Vet categories, Tony Devoy was 3rd in the O50 and Peter Weatherhead 2nd in the O60.

Coming soon.....

Oct 7	Wirral AC AGM	Oval 7.30
Oct 8	Merseyside Schools CC	Croxteth Pk
Oct 16	Borders League	Prestatyn
Oct 19	Endurance Series - 5k	Oval 7.45
Oct 22	Manchester CC League	Heaton Pk
Oct 29	L/pool&District League	Beacon Pk 2pm
Nov 5	English CC Relays	Mansfield
Nov 13	Borders Road League	Birkenhead Pk
	Manchester CC League	Sherdley Pk
Nov 19	Merseyside Schools CC	Wavertree
	NA Indoor Open	Sheffield
Nov 26	UK Cross Challenge	Sefton Park
	including L&D League	
Dec 3	Manchester CC League	Wythenshawe Pk
Dec 10	Merseyside Schools CC	Stadt Moers
	L/pool&District League	Stadt Moers 2pm
Dec 11	Borders Road League	Tattenhall
Dec 17	NA Indoor Open	Sheffield
Jan 7	Merseyside County CC	Sherdley Pk
	including Wirral AC Champs	
	in all age groups except Seniors	
Jan 8	Borders Road League	Abergele
Jan 15	Manchester CC League	Stockport
Jan 28	Northern CC Champs	Yorkshire
Feb 11	Manchester CC League	Clayton Vale
Feb 19	L/pool&D CCChamps	Clarke Gardens
Feb 25	National CC Champs	Parliament Hill
Feb 26	Borders Road League	Wreccsam Tri
Mar 4	Club Senior CC Champs	Arrowe Pk 11am

Athletic Shorts.....

◆ One hundred members, past and present, and parents ran in the four teams of 25 that took part in the Centenary relay on the Oval track on Sept 11th. Mark Hulmston's team was fastest with 2 hours 26 minutes 41 seconds, followed by Norman's All Stars, for whom Richard Evans ran the fastest time at the Oval. In fact, Jordan Donnelly ran his mile in Vietnam on the Saturday in 4.32. Graham Patterson's team were third and the Over 50 team, which included four in their seventies, closed in 41 seconds outside 3 hours. Members of Birkenhead AC joined us for the occasion in a composite 5th team.

Club Vests

The official stockists of club vests are:

Runners Sport & Leisurewear

66, Bebington Road, New Ferry.

Vests : £13 ; Green shorts : £10.

They will deal by mail : 0151 644 8384

They also have a shop at 28 Birkenhead Road, Hoylake – they do not hold stock here.