



Wirral A C Newsletter

No 218 Jan/Feb 2016

Editor: L J Carroll

U15 Boys and U20 Women take the Honours at Witton Park.

The Northern Championships at Witton Park was one of those cross country occasions which will live long in the memory of the survivors, as a series of violent snow and hail storms swept the course to add to the mud and the climbs. Conditions for the Seniors, in particular, were among the worst I can recall in 60 years of attending the event. That said, we had successful afternoon with the U15 boys taking the bronze, the U20 Womens team of a Tarver, a Kearney and a Nuttall taking the silver and teams finishing in eight age groups.

The individual run of the day came from Sophie Tarver with 7th in her first year in the U20 Women, her best run over country since finishing 3rd in the U13 Northern in 2011. With just three to count, Fiona Nuttall (29th) and Aileen Kearney (31st) completed the team for 67points, just 4 points adrift from the NE winners, Birtley AC. Eight clubs had enough runners entered to finish a counting team but only two managed to do so.

While the U20 medals were a pleasant surprise, the U15 Boys were the pre-race favourites for a medal of some colour. They had to settle for the bronze behind a powerful Vale Royal squad and Chesterfield. Tom Spence (16th) led them home with a strong run from the gun, Martin Hurst (42nd) and Arran Kearney (47th) were never far apart and Jacob Brophy (68th) completed the count.

Best of the rest was 5th by the U17 Men, with Joe Wigfield in 17th. The U15 Girls took 6th despite losing Juliet Hodder to a fall when well placed – Katie Thompson was first up in 21st. Louis Johnston (11th) made the first dozen in the U13 Boys race leading the team to 8th place, one place better than the U13 Girls, for whom Ellen-Mary Kearney had an outstanding run in 23rd as she is still eligible for this age group next year. Callum Seymour was our lone finisher in the U20 Mens race in 55th place.

In the Senior Womens race, which had the worst of the conditions, we had six finishers, taking 16th place out of 40 teams that closed, the 3rd Merseyside club behind Liverpool Harriers and Pensby. Sarah Kearney battled round to 68th, with Anne Rosbottom(80), Sophie Hunt (132) and Caroline Brophy (220) completing the count and Chloe Dalton (357 and Yolla McCoy (330) in support. A Senior team weakened by some key absences managed 29th led by Phil Robertson (67) and David Brockway. Simon Fox, Harley Henshaw, Nick Wilson and Ronan Kearney completed the count.

105th Anniversary Dinner and Dance

Ronan Kearney has arranged this social occasion at the Leverhulme Hotel, Port Sunlight, the same venue as the Centenary Dinner.

Ikem Billy, our super star some 30 years ago who still holds the club 800m record, will be give a short, and he promises entertaining talk followed by a Q&A.

Tickets can be ordered via the Face Book page on the website – less than 5 minutes including paying – or contact Ronan on 07941140629 or email admin@wirralco.ac.uk.

Tickets are £45 for adults, £25 for U18s.

Friday Mar 11th - 19.00 – 23.30



U20 Women with the Northern Silvers at Blackburn
L to R: Sophie Tarver, Aileen Kearney, Fiona Nuttall

Northern Indoor Medals

The Northern Indoor Championships at EIS, Sheffield saw Amy Tarver pick up a rare Senior Gold in winning the Womens High Jump with 1.66m. Blake Brown won silver in the U17 60m and 200m behind Sale's, Jona Efoloko, in new PBs, which place him 4th and 8th in the National rankings. Emily Darroch also produced a PB of 9.17s in the U17 60m hurdles to take the bronze medal. Best of the rest was Sam Landsborough who made the final of the Senior 200m, despite some very tough qualifying conditions. Obi Curry and Niamh Rattray made the semis of the U17 60m and 200m and were joined in the 60m semis by Taylor Harry.

In the U13/U15 Championships on the first Sunday in February at the same venue, four Wirral athletes progressed to the semi-finals of the U15 Girls 60m. Erin Hedges just edged Chloe Penketh for 4th in the first semi, Jaime Stanton was 7th in the second and Jasmine Dunne 5th in the third. Amber Harry and Maya Curry, both in their first year in the age group, went out in the heats. Harvey Darroch was 8th in the U15 Long Jump with 4.95m.

Strong Showing in the County Champs

In yet another wet and muddy day of this muddy season for the County Championships at Arrowse Park, we picked up the U13 and U15 Boys and the U17 Mens team titles as well as providing individual winners in Ellen-Mary Kearney (U13 Girls) and Louis Johnston (U13 Boys). Sarah Kearney picked up first vet 35-44 and Alex Poulston won the 9/10 race. The U13 Girls were just beaten on count back by Liverpool Harriers, but were well and truly second in the U15 Girls as the strong Harriers team provided the first 5 home.

Zach Russell and Finan Johnston filled the minor places in the U13 Boys as did Arran Kearney and Tom Spence in the U15 Boys and Sophie Tarver and Fiona Nuttall in the U20 Women. Callum Seymour took the medal for the first runner from an unplaced club in the U20 Men.

In the Senior Ladies event, we had eight finishers, Anne Rosbottom, Catherine Hall and Natatie Johnston joining Sarah Kearney as the counters for 5th place in a well contested team race. The Senior Men were third behind Liverpool H and Southport Waterloo with Phil Robertson (5th), David Brockway (9th) and John Hunt (13th) the leading counters. Alan Robertson (21st), Mark Hulmston (22nd) and Simon Fox (51st) completed the count.

The teams for the Inter Counties at Cofton Park on mar 12th are now on the County web-site here: <http://merseysidecountyaa.org.uk/inter-county-team-selections/>

Coming soon.....

Feb 13	Manchester Area CC league	Wythenshawe PK
Feb 27	English National CC Champs	Donnington Pk
Mar 1	Wirral Short Course	Arrowse Pk 4.30pm
Mar 5	English Schools Champs	Nottingham
Mar 6	Wirral AC Senior Champs	Arrowse Pk 11am
Mar 8	Wirral Short Course	Arrowse Pk 4.30pm
Mar 12	Inter Counties CC Champs	Cofton Park, Birm
Mar 13	BMAF CC Champs	Bath
Mar 15	Wirral Short Course	Arrowse Pk 4.30pm
Mar 20	Borders RR League 5	Tattenhall 11am
Mar 26	Merseyside Fell Champs	Rivington 3pm
Mar 27	Wirral Seaside Run	Moreton 11am
Apr 2	Northern 6/12 stage Relays	TBA
Apr 16	National 6/12 stage Relays	Sutton Park
Apr 17	Borders RR League 6	Mold 11am
Apr 23	YDL Lower	Hull
Apr 27	Borders RR League 7	TBA!!!!
	Club house at Shotton is now unavailable .	
	Wirral Seaside Run	Moreton 7pm
May 1	YDL Upper	Blackburn
May 7	Northern T&F league	Deeside
May 8	YA Medal Meeting	Oval
May 14	Merseyside County T&F	Oval
May 21	YDL Lower	Leeds
May 25	Wirral Seaside Run	Moreton 7pm
May 29	YDL Upper	Wavertree
Jun 5	Northern T&F League	Warrington
Jun 8	Birkenhead Park 5	Lower Park

Athletic Shorts.....

- ◆ The 4th round of the Borders League at Abergele saw a fight back by the Womens team as they registered the narrowest of wins over Tattenhall to climb to 5th in Div 1, just 11 points behind 3rd. Sophie Hunt and Sarah Kearney were first and second individuals. Phil Robertson, Xavier Desse and Callum Seymour filled 7th 7th to 9th as the Men won to increase their lead in Div 1
- ◆ Emily Kearney represented Wales in the Great Edinburgh Cross Country International on Jan 9th. She has also been selected to compete in the Brooks International Armagh 5k road race on Feb 18th.
- ◆ Aileen Kearney won the bronze medal in the Welsh Indoor U20 400m at Cardiff in 58.60s
- ◆ Louis Johnson won the Junior Boys title at the Merseyside Schools Cross County Championships. Full results and team selection for the English Schools is here: <http://mcsaa.webs.com/schools-leagues-etc>
- ◆ An under strength team finished fourth in the L&D Cross Country Champs at Clarke Gardens, a disappointing result after winning the League.

Club Vests

The official stockists of club vests:
Runners Sport & Leisurewear
28, Birkenhead Road, Hoylake, CH47 3BW
Vests : £15 ; Green shorts : £10.
They will deal by mail : 0151 632 3820