

English Bronze for Blake Brown

Blake Brown followed his Northern success reported last month by taking the bronze medal in the U17 Mens 60m at the England Athletics Indoor Championships at Sheffield. After comfortably winning his heat, he was second in his semi-final behind the eventual winner, Tyrese Johnston-Fisher of Croyden, in 7.05s. He improved to 7.03s in the final, just enough to hold of another semi-final runner-up take third spot. Emily Darroch made it to the semi-finals of the U17 Womens 60m Hurdles in which she finished 4th.

Cross Country Round-up.

The English National, the climax of the club season run in relatively benign conditions for a change, saw teams finish in the U15 Boys (16th), U17 Men (17th), Senior Men (58th), U13 Girls (37th) and U15 Girls (20th). The best individual run of the day came from Louis Johnston who was 36th out of a field of 420 in the U13 Boys.. Across the other age groups, Katie Thompson (55th in the U15 Girls), Sophie Tarver (31st in the U20 Women) Tom Spence (70th in the U15 Boys) and Joe Wigfield (71st in the U17 Men) stand out as does Ellen-Mary Kearney (95th in her first year in the U13 Girls) and Phoebe Croft who ran out of her socks for 101st in the U15 Girls. The Sam Dodd Cup for the leading Senior man went to Phil Robertson for the third year in a row.

Some thirteen members represented Merseyside in the English Schools at Nottingham. Joe Wigfield (51st) and Tom Spence (91st) counted for the Inter Boys team that finished 2nd. Other leading runs cam from Sophie Tarver, 19th in the Senior Girls and Katie Thompson, 80th in the Inter Girls and 5th count in a team that finished 7th.

The Inter Counties at Cofton Park saw Phil Robertson in 4th count for Merseyside closely followed by Dave Brockway in an outstanding debut in a County vest. Sophie Tarver continued her consistent season with 17th in the U20 Women as did Louis Johnston (36th U13 Boys) and Tom Spence (42nd in the U15 Boys).

The R J Murray Cup for the best performance of the season has been awarded to Louis Johnston for his run in the Northern Championships.



Senior Men at the National

L to R : David Brockway, Mark Hulmston, Simon Fox, Phil Robertson, Tony Devoy, Nick Wilson, Richard Bargh, Mark Hughes. Phil is holding the Sam Dodd Cup for the first Wirral runner home.

Another Borders Win.

The Senior men scored another Borders win at Tattenhall with 5 in the first 11 and the counters home by 45th. However, put the euphoria on hold as Wallasey also scored low, holding us to 65 points – they are continuing to hang in there! The Ladies finished 4th and are now 4th overall, despite the absence of Sarah Kearney sidelined with a stress fracture of a meta-tarsal. Aileen Kearney, Anne Rosbottom, Amy Bartley and Elsa Bromhall made up the count. The next race is at Mold on April 17th and the final one on April 27th at Prestatyn, not Shotton as on the original fixture list.

Manchester Area CC League

The final race at Wythenshawe saw the Womens team top Div 3 in both the Open Womens and Veteran classes. Sarah Kearney won the overall Veterans competition as well as the F40 class. Alex Poulston won the U11 race and took 2nd spot overall.

Sportshall News

Mark Roberts reports that the NW finals had to be abandoned due to the slippery floor. The only team results produced were for the U11 (Boys and Girls) in which Wirral came 3rd. At the regional finals, the U15 Boys won the title for Merseyside and progress to the National Finals on April 17th, with Harvey Darroch and Adam Spence team members. For the U15 Girls, Emma Rowlands won the U15 Shot and Mollie Williams and Erine Flynn were also in the team that took 4th place. The U13 Boys and Girls finished 4th.

Wirral AC Cross Country Championships

Phil Robertson chalked up his third win in the club Senior Mens Championship in Arrowse Park, ahead of David Brockway and John Hunt. Tony Devoy won the George Houghton Cup for the first Over 50 and David Brockway won the sealed handicap by 1 second from John Hunt. Phil also won the Cross Country league, with maximum points. David Brockway was 2nd and Mark Hulmston edged Simon Fox out of third in the final race.

The Womens Trophy was retained by Sarah Kearney with Anne Rosbottom and Aimee Bartley in the minor places.

The Under 9 and Under 11 Championships were decided within races on the back of the Oval which drew no less than a total of 62 runners. Alex Poulston won the U11 Boys from Eliot Bujac and Ethan Brady-Jones, while Ethan's twin sister, Keira took the Girls title in front of Gina Nuttall and Zara White. Chris Clark, Ben Grantham and Oberon Kearney filled the places in the Boys U9 with Emma Poulston, Holly Cross and Orla Smout in the frame for the Girls.

Other age groups were decided within the Merseyside Championships in January. Trophies and medals will be presented in the Royal British Legion Club, Bebington on Monday evening, April 4th.

Club Vests

The official stockists of club vests:

Runners Sport & Leisurewear

28, Birkenhead Road, Hoylake, CH47 3BW

Vests : £15 ; Green shorts : £10.

Coming soon.....

Mar 26	Merseyside Fell Champs	Rivington 3pm
Mar 27	Wirral Seaside Run	Moreton 11am
Apr 2	Northern 6/12 stage Relays	TBA
Apr 6	Track Endurance Series 5k	Oval 7.45pm
Apr 10	Cheshire League	Oval
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	Prestatyn 7.15pm
May 1	Wirral AC Schools T&F Cup	Oval 4.30pm
May 1	YDL Upper	Blackburn
May 1	Liverpool Spring 10K	* Liverpool
May 7	Northern T&F league	Deeside
May 8	YA Medal Meeting	Oval
	including Endurance Series 1 mile	at 11.45am
May 14	Merseyside County T&F	Oval
	Masters Road Relays	Sutton Park
May 17	Walton Park 5	* Walton Pk
May 21	YDL Lower	Leeds
May 25	Wirral Seaside Run	Moreton 7pm
May 29	YDL Upper	Wavertree
Jun 1	Endurance Series 3k	Oval 7.45pm
Jun 4	Cheshire League	Deeside
Jun 5	Northern T&F League	Warrington
Jun 8	Birkenhead Park 5	* Lower Park
Jun 11	Merseyside Schools	Over
	* Race part of the Merseyside Grand Prix	

Athletic Shorts.....

- ◆ Jordan Donnelly ran 4m 11.14s in an indoor mile in Boston in the USA. The event featured no less than 26 races with 316 finishers from times ranging from 3m 58s to 5m 03s! He was 2nd in a race in which less than 3 seconds covered the first 9.
- ◆ Louis Johnston has been invited to represent the NW in the Mini-Marathon on the day of the London Marathon.
- ◆ Joe Wigfield and Zita Aspel have been selected to represent GB Catholic Schools in the European Catholic Schools in Beauvais, France in July.
- ◆ Emily Kearney ran for Wales in the Armagh International 3km Road Race, clocking 10m 13.03s. She also took 4th place in the Welsh U20 Cross Country Championships in Swansea. At the same meeting, Sarah Kearney finished 9th in the Senior Womens, 2nd veteran behind the former 3 times English Champion, Andrea Whitcombe. For those with long memories, Andrea's second win was at Arrowse Park in 1991.
- ◆ Sophie Money made the semi-finals of the 200m in the BUCS Indoor Championship, clocking a season's best of 26.24s and a PB Indoors.
- ◆ Dave Norman (M55) and Peter Weatherhead (M60) took second place in their age categories in the Northern Veterans Cross Country Championships at Warrington.
- ◆ Details of the Track Endurance Series are on the club web-site in a dedicated page under fixtures – first race is a 5k on April 6th. Note that under the terms of the permit only U20 and Seniors can compete in this event (uka rule 141 (3) (iv)).