

Obituary: Chris Beighton

At a time in the late 1990s-2000 plus, when Rotherham H&AC was reaping the benefit of long-term planning and dedication, with a consequent march up club rankings nationally and locally there was no better news than arrival on the scene of a runner with no compromise; just 100% in personal performance and in club selection and reliability.

Such a one was Chris: he was not keen on cross-country but on the road look out! He went to races not just to take part but to win. Which he did with some regularity. The last race he ran before (I think from injury) retirement from running in 2004 was in fact the Lincoln 10k which he won in 35:57 (still on power of 10!).



As a vet he was an integral part of the very successful RHAC county, area and national achievements (pictured left, with Alan Gregory, Peter Morris and Steve Gaines at Yorkshire Vets) but was at the same time a keen, reliable contributor to the open-age teams. His was not a long career with us- but it was a spectacular one.*

Peter Elliott writes:

"It is with great sadness that we have lost a tremendous character and athlete in Chris Beighton. I had the pleasure of calling Chris a very close training partner and friend and we put many miles in during my competitive career. Chris was a talented athlete himself who always gave his all in the races he competed in. He will be sadly missed by his wife, Helen, and her family in Scotland along with Chris' sister Cheryl and of course the many friends he acquired in the running world." "It is a huge shock that we could lose someone so fit and healthy up to a few weeks ago in such a sudden way."

Chris passed away at Queen Elizabeth University Hospital on Saturday 21 September after a short illness following major surgery. He and his wife Helen had moved to Dreghorn, in Scotland in recent years to be close to Helen's family where he continued to cycle on a regular basis, as he had with several of his running friends in Rotherham and also continued to ride his motorcycle around the Highlands.

Peter Elliott MBE

President of Rotherham Harriers & AC.

[*see RHAC website timeline and newsletters at Club Mainpage> [History \(timeline\)](#) and [Document Stacks](#) for late 1995-2004]

If you wish to contribute to this obituary, please email obituary@rotherhamharriers.org

Peter Humphries