



## Graves Park best ever

Rotherham reached a best-ever sixth place at the north of England cross-country this year, and did so courtesy of some fine running and fine team support.

Taken individually, a number of us may well not be satisfied with the outcome, but the members of the squad which took the field at Graves Park on Sunday can congratulate ourselves that this was a good team performance. Fine enough, in fact, to give us our best position at sixth in this North of England event in the modern era. In the process we put our neighbours Hallamshire behind us and only Leeds, again fielding a very strong outfit, headed us among the Yorkshire clubs.

Eleventh is of course a super result, but having won this event last year, there is no way Dave Tune would be too happy with anything less. It was not to be however, well on the pace at first he suffered on the first of the very hilly laps and lost contact with the lead. After that though he got back into gear and had the race been decided on laps two and three would have won it, but the damage was done. Nonetheless, a run of great character, and he did his team a top job with that eleventh place.

So too did Darren Cooney, finishing sixteenth place. Whatever the problem at the county event, it did not intervene here and his familiar forceful style never faltered. He was none too chuffed with the outcome either, understandable as he will measure his result by previous placings, notably last March's 7th place in the national. Even so, he looks well on the way to being right for this year's event at Newark.

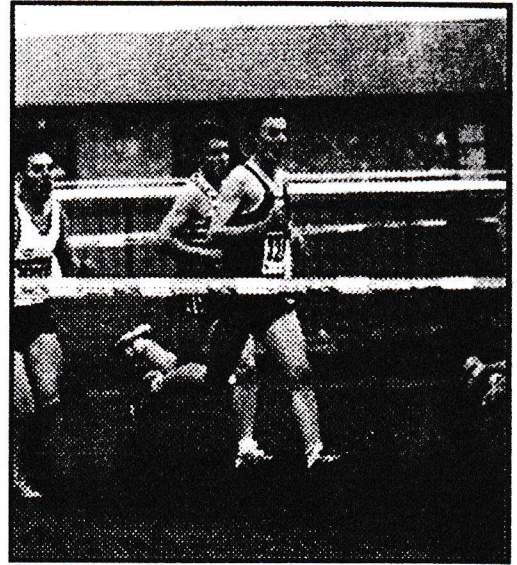
One man who is happy is Paul Venables who had a stormer, by his own admission the best showing since his return from repeated injuries last year. Though he is not preoccupied with such matters, Paul would be pleased to hold off several of the 'young' guns of neighbouring clubs at the uphill finish, notably messrs Stocks, Whiting and Teasdale. He is now more confident of lining up a defence of his northern vets title, in which he may be joined by Steve Elvidge and others.

An enigmatic result though for Darren Hale. Ruled out for the county fixtures through 'flu, Darren seemed back to form, but it didn't work on the day. He looks certain for a Lancashire county run in the inter-county this month, whilst named as reserve there are certain non-runners in the squad and it will be a just reward for the powerful running he has been showing. Though handy, his finish on the day was short of his true position, but his trip down from Preston was both very influential and contributory to our placing.

We had thought Richard Harris would be up amongst the scorers but Richard was in all sorts of trouble this time and had to struggle hard to stay on results page one. This one definitely he will put down to experience. It was Darren Ward and Steve Elvidge who completed the six, Darren getting some good training in again and very keen to line up some spring road and country racing in advance of the big relay events, which he is looking forward to. Steve was made up with cold and hoping not to be in the scorers, allowing him then to drop out. It didn't happen that way however, and he stuck to it manfully.

Had he done so it was only a brief step to Alan Chell who is also looking very strong, Alan's finishing place would also have got us sixth. It is a pleasure too to give prominence to the support of Steve Gaines. Here, as in the Yorkshire vets at Graves Park last month, he was outside the scoring team though it was a hair's breadth in the vets. He is running well, and will take this philosophically, but it is a great boost to runners and organisers alike to have such strong reliable support. Mark Ruddleston too, named in the squad, was present with spikes but opted to nurse a foot injury in view of the team lined up.

It is interesting that for various reasons I will not bore you with again, the six scoring runners in the northern were all different to the six at the Yorkshire event, only Richard Harris finishing in both in fact.



Dave Tune pictured last time the national was at Newark

### Jamie Robinson

The aeroplane collision over Everton last week took from Rotherham Harriers a valued colleague and a promising talent. Pilot and photographer Jamie Robinson, who had been with us only a year or so, had already become known as a sociable club member and a good runner who was willing and keen to train and improve.

Perhaps known best to the members of Jim Brogan's training group, Jamie finished third at the Maltby Abbey Dash last year and also third at the Strawberry Fayre race in Swinton.

It was a sign of his keenness to improve that he was listed in our North of England Cross-country entry on Saturday, though a knee injury had kept him away since Christmas.

But more sadly, this dreadful accident took the father of a young family, to whom our hearts go out at this time.

## Northern Cross country

# Top team work from 13's

The RH under 13 squad showed clearly what team running can do with a brilliant third place medal in the northern to add to their county gold. Rhian Hastey, Richard Stephenson, John Marshall and Ben Hague packed 21 to 42 to take the award after Trafford and Liverpool by countback, having finished equal with Morpeth they took it because Ben was home before their fourth runner.

Elsewhere good performances from Leanne Muscroft and Alicia Hague at U-13 girls, Lindsay Carnell and Gillian Wright U-15. Ian Whitaker was our leading U17 again, in 22.04 with Paul Marshall running 23.21 and Richard Lomas 23.36. The under-15 boys fielded a sound squad in Liam Rooney, Steven Winter, Simon Francos and Jamie Gallagher.

Julie O'Mara's strong 14th place was backed up by Sharon Marshall in 56th, Jane Clarke 61st and Gill Bunker 77th to earn the senior ladies 8th place with Mary Rhodes again in the finishers, whilst at Junior ladies Katy Storey ran an impressive 11th place in 25.37, Lindsey Whitaker timing at 31.30.

## North of England Cross-country

Graves Park 30/1/99

## Senior Men

|     |            |       |
|-----|------------|-------|
| 11  | D.Tune     | 39:40 |
| 16  | D.Cooney   | 40:22 |
| 58  | P.Venables | 42:07 |
| 71  | D.Hale     | 42:45 |
| 124 | D.Ward     | 44:21 |
| 129 | S.Elvidge  | 44:29 |
| 141 | A.Chell    | 44:53 |
| 189 | R.Harris   | 45:58 |
| 210 | S.Gaines   | 46:21 |

|   |                  |            |
|---|------------------|------------|
| 1 | Salford          | 142        |
| 2 | Morpeth          | 148        |
| 3 | Sale             | 218        |
| 4 | Leeds            | 236        |
| 5 | Border           | 333        |
| 6 | <b>Rotherham</b> | <b>409</b> |
| 7 | Hallamshire      | 456        |

## Senior Ladies

|     |            |       |
|-----|------------|-------|
| 14  | J.O'Mara   | 29:42 |
| 56  | S.Marshall | 32:38 |
| 61  | J.Clark    | 32:49 |
| 77  | G.Bunker   | 34:04 |
| 246 | M.Rhodes   | 47:52 |

|   |                  |            |
|---|------------------|------------|
| 1 | Sale             | 69         |
| 8 | <b>Rotherham</b> | <b>208</b> |

## Junior Ladies

|    |            |       |
|----|------------|-------|
| 11 | K.Storey   | 25:37 |
|    | L.Whitaker | 31:30 |

## U17 Men

|  |            |       |
|--|------------|-------|
|  | I.Whitaker | 22:04 |
|  | P.Marshall | 23:21 |
|  | R.Lomas    | 23:36 |

## U15 Girls

|  |           |       |
|--|-----------|-------|
|  | L.Carnell | 21:17 |
|  | G.Wright  | 22:09 |

## U15 Boys

|  |             |       |
|--|-------------|-------|
|  | L.Rooney    | 16:28 |
|  | S.Winter    | 17:14 |
|  | S.Francos   | 17:27 |
|  | J.Gallagher | 18:11 |

## U13 Girls

|    |            |       |
|----|------------|-------|
| 17 | L.Muscroft | 14:06 |
| 47 | A.Hague    |       |

## U13 Boys

|    |              |       |
|----|--------------|-------|
| 21 | R.Hastey     | 12:49 |
| 31 | R.Stephenson | 12:56 |
| 37 | J.Marshall   | 13:02 |
| 43 | B.Hague      | 13:09 |

|   |                  |            |
|---|------------------|------------|
| 1 | Trafford         | 79         |
| 2 | Liverpool H      | 82         |
| 3 | <b>Rotherham</b> | <b>132</b> |

## Club Championship 1998

The list I finally came up with is as follows:

- 1 Ferriby 10
- 2 Snake Lane 10
- 3 Norton 9
- 4 Wombwell 5
- 5 Doncaster Half
- 6 East Hull 20
- 7 SYRL 1 Dinnington
- 8 Wakefield 10k
- 9 Sheffield Marathon
- 10 Sheffield Half
- 11 SYRL 2 Worsbrough
- 12 Askern 10k
- 13 SYRL 3 Wombwell
- 14 Woodhall Spa Half
- 15 SYRL 4 Armthorpe
- 16 Swallownest 10k
- 17 Damflask Relays
- 18 Stawberry Fayre
- 19 Doncaster 5k
- 20 Askern 10
- 21 Armthorpe 10k
- 22 Maltby 10
- 23 Worksop Half
- 24 Percy Pud 10k
- 25 Woodhouse 7

The competition has worked eventually, but the races were listed late, and the whole series has been unsatisfactory from that point of view. The main reason is that I have had too much on and have not done it right, and I won't try to shirk it. But also, there has been no end of difficulty with races not on or on, and dates changing. If anyone feels aggrieved at races in that they thought weren't, or not in and thought they were, let me know and we will make some satisfactory arrangement so no-one is put out.

You need to check you results for me to ensure that I haven't missed you from any, especially as I have had to rely on reports for East Hull, Wakefield and Worksop. The finishing positions look like this at the moment, subject to scrutiny:

1st Luke Field 985, 2nd John Atkinson 930 (if PV takes 1st vet), 3rd Jerry Spencer 913, then I have Tony Turner 899, Neil Shaw on 866, Richard Burton 862, Graham Benton 829 and Malc Rhodes 791. First vet is Paul Venables 972, first vet 50 Terry Hawley by the narrowest margin from Tony on 900, B section Roy Butterworth 873 and C section Phil Widdowson 823.

The ladies result is in doubt too, with Gill Bunker on 988 and Vicky Haigh 969. But Janet Hindley has 897 for nine races and we can't yet say if she did Wakefield- no results and she is on holiday. If need be, we go ahead and make two awards if it turns out that way. Most races: to be announced. But as I said, subject to checking. It is always wrong somewhere.

The awards will be on Friday, 8.30 onwards at Rotherham Rugby Club, together as usual with the mileage awards. There will be a quiz and a drink after.

RHAC has agreed to the request of Mick Hill, SY road organiser, to stage the first road league fixture at Dinnington (DRUFC willing) at a date to be arranged.

# Tune SY Victory a win for common sense

Our pleasure at holding on to Robert Holladay's services has proved short-lived; Rob will be running for Morpeth shortly after his move north. Rob has had the courtesy to keep me fully informed from the outset, and whilst we are obviously sad to lose him we should remember the very positive contribution he has made to our efforts over four years of progress, wish him well and look to the future.

The confirmed date for the north of England twelve-stage relay is Sunday March 28th, the venue is Haigh Hall, Wigan- a well-known course having been used in 1995 and 1996. I do not know why it has been changed to Sunday, hopefully there will be no problems.

Steven Bates has ligament injuries after his spell of footballing at Christmas and will be laid off for a while.

Winning numbers for January, drawn Friday 29th: £60 Glynn Harney no 165; £10 each Mark Ruddleston no.15, Derek Clark no. 58, Trevor Fisher no.27. 180 sold, thank you Brian.

The South Yorkshire Schools cross-country takes place at Penistone Grammar School this Saturday 6th February with the first race at 10.15, whilst Sunday sees the first 1999 championship race for us at Ferriby, the (new) traditional course based at Cottingham School, start and finish at Skidby windmill at noon. It appears they will accept entries on the day, surcharged.

Our second race will again be the Norton 9, scheduled for Sunday March 7th.

I am happy to correct my error regarding Gill Bunker's medal at the Yorkshire vets: 2nd over 40.

Better than I said, and younger!

## Fixtures Feb/March

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Sun 7 Feb  | Ferriby 10 noon                        |
| Sun 14 Feb | Tigger Tor 11 am                       |
| Wed 17 Feb | Rugby Club 6.45 (Winter S)             |
| Sun 28 Feb | Brighton Half 11am                     |
| Sun 28 Feb | Yorks Vets series 10k South Leeds 11am |
| Sun 7 Mar  | Spire 10 10am                          |
| Sun 7 Mar  | Norton 9                               |
| Sat 13 Mar | National Cross-country, Newark         |
| Sat 20 Mar | Carnforth Classic 10k 1pm              |
| Sun 28 Mar | Northern 12 Stage Relay                |
| Wed 31 Mar | WS Maltby probable                     |

Dave Tune raced to a clear win in the South Yorkshire cross-country Championship at Barnsley last month. It is to the great credit of the SY organisers in my view, particularly Les Outvin, that Dave does indeed get the title and the medal these days; it was not formerly the case. Rotherham took the overall team title by only two points from Doncaster, Hallamshire two more behind. In this we were helped by an overall win for the vets men, again marginal and rescued on the day by Alan Chell and Steve Gaines with Kevin Thomas 4th scorer, and the storming performance of the under 17 men. Overall wins too for the under 15 girls and under 13 boys.

Individually, the honours board for the series shows Teresa McNaney winning the under 15 girls, Rhian Hastey the under 13 boys, Ian Whitaker the under 17 men. Second places were earned by good running from Sharon Marshall (senior women), Richard Lomas (under 17 men) and Alan Chell (vet men). Sadly, Andy Aked could not defend his title (overall series, that is), and series lead due to a nagging injury. Hopefully he will be back soon- as may be Chris parkes.

|                              |            |       |           |            |       |
|------------------------------|------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------|
| SY XC Champs & 4th of series |            | 2     | A.Grady   | 07:31      |       |
| 1                            | D.Tune     | 36:30 | 11        | J.Keyworth | 08:42 |
| 17                           | A.Chell    | 40:22 | 15        | L.Phillips | 09:22 |
| 24                           | S.Gaines   | 41:49 | 16        | V.Grady    | 09:26 |
| 25                           | J.Comrie   | 41:50 |           |            |       |
| 55                           | S.Phillips | 46:40 | U13 girls |            |       |
| 77                           | K.Thomas   | 49:15 | 2         | L.Muscroft | 13:53 |
| 83                           | M.Whitaker | 50:04 | 4         | A.Hague    | 14:56 |
| 102                          | M.Rhodes   | 55:49 |           |            |       |

|         |            |           |    |             |       |
|---------|------------|-----------|----|-------------|-------|
| U17 men |            | U15 girls |    |             |       |
| 1       | I.Whitaker | 23:55     | 1  | T.McNaney   | 13:33 |
| 2       | P.Marshall | 23:57     | 4  | G.Wright    | 14:45 |
| 3       | R.Lomas    | 24:23     | 7  | L.Carnell   | 15:36 |
| 5       | C.Hallas   | 27:17     | 11 | E.Thomas    | 16:36 |
|         |            |           | 13 | M.Hindmarsh | 18:17 |

|                 |            |          |    |              |       |
|-----------------|------------|----------|----|--------------|-------|
| Sen / Vet women |            | U13 boys |    |              |       |
| 4               | S.Marshall | 27:11    | 1  | R.Hastey     | 15:32 |
| 11              | L.Whitaker | 30:30    | 2  | R.Stephenson | 15:54 |
|                 |            |          | 3  | B.Hague      | 15:56 |
| Under 17 women  |            |          | 6  | A.Both       | 17:10 |
| 8               | N.Chell    | 19:34    | 8  | M.Burke      | 17:20 |
|                 |            |          | 14 | L.Johnson    | 18:48 |

|           |            |          |    |             |       |
|-----------|------------|----------|----|-------------|-------|
| U11 boys  |            | U15 boys |    |             |       |
| 6         | J.Beighton | 07:17    | 3  | L.Rooney    | 15:00 |
| 9         | D.Scholey  | 07:31    | 4  | S.Winter    | 15:18 |
|           |            |          | 10 | S.Francos   | 16:08 |
| U11 girls |            |          | 13 | J.Gallacher | 16:39 |

**Club Championship Awards  
 Mileage Awards  
 Friday 5th (this week)  
 Rugby Club  
 8.30**

|    |       |                  |      |
|----|-------|------------------|------|
| 1  | 32:20 | Steve Elvidge    | RHAC |
| 2  | 34:00 | Shaun Hogton     | KS   |
| 3  | 34:12 | Paul Marshall    | RHAC |
| 4  | 35:16 | Phil Eddison     | RHAC |
| 5  | 35:35 | Alvin Hickling   | BAC  |
| 6  | 35:38 | Keith Binney     | BAC  |
| 7  | 35:57 | Richard Lomas    | RHAC |
| 8  | 36:00 | Mick Marsters    | RHAC |
| 9  | 36:34 | Steve Marshall   | RHAC |
| 10 | 37:08 | Derrick Green    | KS   |
| 11 | 37:19 | Jim Rust         | MRC  |
| 12 | 37:26 | Glen James       | RHAC |
| 13 | 37:32 | Pat Rooney       | KS   |
| 14 | 37:48 | Tony Stuart      | MRC  |
| 15 | 35:50 | Andy Rowe        | KS   |
| 16 | 37:58 | Ray Howarth      | RHAC |
| 17 | 38:24 | Dave Watkinson   | RHAC |
| 18 | 38:37 | Mick Cochran     | RHAC |
| 19 | 38:43 | Ian Soakell      | KS   |
| 20 | 38:51 | Ian Brookes      | KS   |
| 21 | 39:00 | Dennis Beaver    | RHAC |
| 22 | 39:03 | Neil Shaw        | RHAC |
| 23 | 39:05 | Roy Thomas       | KS   |
| 24 | 39:14 | Steve Durdy      | MRC  |
| 25 | 39:53 | Kerry Booth      | RHAC |
| 26 | 40:01 | Gill Bunker      | RHAC |
| 27 | 40:20 | John Steele      |      |
| 28 | 40:34 | Pete Humphries   | RHAC |
| 29 | 40:40 | Mick Barber      | MRC  |
| 30 | 40:56 | Roy Butterworth  | RHAC |
| 31 | 41:03 | Andrew Eshelby   | RHAC |
| 32 | 41:30 | Mark Uttley      | RHAC |
| 33 | 41:33 | Lesley Day       | RHAC |
| 34 | 41:42 | Mick Swift       | KS   |
| 35 | 42:03 | Tom Smith        | RHAC |
| 36 | 42:25 | Bev Soakell      | KS   |
| 37 | 42:26 | Don Buxton       | MRC  |
| 38 | 43:57 | Henry Marston    | RHAC |
| 39 | 44:04 | Dave Sears       | MRC  |
| 40 | 44:32 | Cain Green       | RHAC |
| 41 | 44:56 | Bob Houghton     | MRC  |
| 42 | 45:05 | Malcolm Rhodes   | RHAC |
| 43 | 45:40 | Alan Bryden      | RHAC |
| 44 | 46:08 | Roger Cook       | KS   |
| 45 | 46:29 | Dave Thorpe      | MRC  |
| 46 | 47:05 | Phil Widdowson   | RHAC |
| 47 | 48:03 | Richard Green    | KS   |
| 48 | 48:39 | Brian Lowndes    | MRC  |
| 49 | 49:20 | Jan Sears        | MRC  |
| 50 | 49:24 | Derek Stainrod   | KS   |
| 51 | 49:28 | Dave Weatherburn | RHAC |
| 52 | 55:58 | Karen Tagg       |      |
| 53 | 55:58 | John Goulty      |      |

## Winter Series

# On-form Elvidge makes it count

The third winter race, staged by Kimberworth Striders at the Travellers as usual, was won emphatically by Steve Elvidge in a smart 32.20 time. Steve is flying around again, making a major contribution to a variety of team performances. Not everyone is aware that back in the eighties for a time Steve was RHAC number one, and you can see why. This one was largely unchallenged, though the relatively unknown Shaun Hogton of the host club ran a strong second in 34 dead. Not far adrift, and a storming effort without doubt, 34.12 from Paul Marshall out of the U-17 squad, and his accepting third place set up Richard Lomas getting back nicely in 7th place to take first junior.

Paul's father Steve was pleased with his 9th spot, and Mick Marsters ran well in front of him but was aggravated he had not realised he was behind BAC guest Keith Binney who therefore took 1st vet 50 with fellow guest Alvin Hickling fifth (1st guest). First vet 40 in fourth place though was Phil Eddison, getting back after missing most of a season.

Gil Bunker was first lady with 40.01 and Leslie Day took first lady vet prize with her 41.33. Other awards were to Jim Rust (1st vet 45), Peter Humphries (1st vet 55, back from the dead), Tom Smith (2nd junior), Bev Soakell (2nd lady) Cain Green (3rd junior) Jan Sears (1st lady vet 40) and Karen Tagg (3rd lady). Thanks to Pat Rooney and colleagues for their organising.

The Winter Series race for February is lined up for the Rugby Club on Wednesday 17th February, off at 6.45. Don Creamer, organiser on the night, is planning to include a sealed handicap in the event. The course will be same as previous years, start near the roundabout Clifton Lane/Wickersley Road, up Broom Valley to two loops of Moorgate Road, Spinneyfield, Broom Lane and Beaconsfield Road, then back down Broom Valley Road to finish at the start. Sorry about the change of date, which is out of my hands.

Maltby RC plan to hold the last of the Winter series of races at Maltby, likely enough the Swan, on a Wednesday after the clocks change, therefore probably March 31st.

Published by Peter Humphries at Wickersley Comprehensive School by kind permission of the Head of School.

This publication is aimed at the improved road and cross-country running of all Rotherham Harriers members.

Contact no: 01709 549125

Whilst I aim at the first Wednesday each month, because of school closures/holidays etc

(a) there is no August publication and  
(b) sometimes publication is delayed to the following week

The support of Yorkshire Windows is greatly appreciated.

**Winter Series**  
**4th race**  
**Rugby Club**  
**Wednesday 17th Feb**  
**off at 6.45**  
**please note date change**