

January
1997Serving the Rotherham Runner
First Wednesday each Month

Yorkshire Cross-country

Golden Boys Marching On

If this is the future of RHAC, we have nothing to fear. The under-15 boys squad turned in a brilliant team performance at Beckett Park in the gloom and cold. Fancied maybe to take silver, they turned the form-book on its head, narrowly beating favourites Holmfirth at their own game. Richard Lomas led them in as usual, running a fine third behind Doncaster's Steve Bates with King (Holmfirth) second. Jamie Russell had a strong run in 9th spot and Kirsten Cawthorne was a very solid fourth scorer in 15th. Perhaps outstanding performance on the day was Ian Whitaker's superb 7th place, which just unfortunately missed out on Yorks team selection, barring injuries. Icing on the cake, Rotherham finished a second team in 9th place through T. Smith, Andy Hudson, Cain Green and Ashley Blackner.

Lyndsey Carnell represented us well at under-13, finishing 5th with backup from Roisin Kelly, as did Liam Rooney and Richard Dennis in the boys event. At under-15 girls Kelly Walker and Charlotte Birch were our representatives. Sadly, none of these finished a team, partly down to illnesses, though the under-15s were unlucky as Simone Goldsborough was spiked shortly after the start. Steve Inglis was solo for RH at under-17, looked strong early on, maybe overcooked it a bit, but held on well to finish 5th.

Silver Lining for Ladies

The ladies missed the gold, but found a silver lining, both at under-17 and senior level. The younger ladies might have been a little disappointed, but Skipton just were good enough on the day. Katy Storey, Carla Foster and Lyndsey Whitaker were the scorers, with Katy home a good fourth. With so many clubs in desperate trouble at this age group, it is astonishing that RHAC were again able to field two teams, with Rachel Kay, Claire Austin and Rachel Hart coming home 6th. There was never any question who was going to win the ladies event, the formidable Leeds side are just too strong, even with top runners missing. Having said that, the Rotherham contingent performed brilliantly, and after a variety of vests it was black, black, black as Julie O'Mara narrowly led home Julia Jennings and Janet Hindley. Just as well they gave 100% as it turned out the narrowest of margins by which they edged out Pudsey for the silver medals. Again we had the pleasure of seeing another RHAC team finishing, through Sharron Marshall, Emma Green and Joanne Chapman with Mary Rhodes supporting.

I watched the Rotherham teams and runners at the Yorkshire meeting and can honestly say that there wasn't a better looking club there on the day. They appeared on the whole focussed, organised and purposeful. And happy. None more so than the senior men. As we all know, we are on a hiding to nothing due to the unfair rules of this competition. Dave Tune, Paul Bennett and Andrew Aked are banned along with some others due to not having fiddled an address within the county border. With Rob Holladay still indisposed and Chris Parkes defying the laws of physics at the Round Rotherham 50, we also have to rule out the likes of Darren Cooney, Martin Connolly and Richard Harris from team competition whilst they qualify. The day is fast arriving when we will be strong enough to overcome the problem.... maybe the next Yorks road relay....?

Enough of that, the runners who did represent us could not have done it better. Lee Collingwood was our first home in 20th place, and I reckoned we put 9 runners between 40 and 60, with Phil Roberts, Alan Chell, Paul Venables, Luke Field and Peter Morris forming our premier team. Given all the circumstances, finishing fifth in Yorkshire is a remarkable achievement to be proud of. Even more so perhaps, the outstanding ninth place for our second team on the day, which I hope I am right in saying was Mark Ruddleston, Jeff Crofts, Steve Gaines, Ian Lanceley, Phil

Eddison and Steve Elvidge, but Ken O'Mara, Phil Smales and Ben Borkowski could have been involved. Dave Richards and Adrian Roberts unfortunately had to drop out, as did Darren Cooney shortly after the start, though Darren was not team-scoring anyway. Some measure of the team's commitment can be gained from the facts that Steve Gaines arrived in time for a warm-up lap, Mark Ruddleston had time to pin his number on, and even Steve Elvidge was there shortly before the gun. Unheard of. Remarkable. It was a well-organised event, but the road signs weren't easy to see. A number of our runners know a lot more about north Leeds than they did.



Janet Hindley
(above left), Julia
Jennings and Julie
O'Mara (left) in
great form seen
here picking up the
silver medals here
at the Yorkshires

Xmas Day Race

Sam's the Man

see page 2

Xmas Day Race

John Comrie (aka Sam) hit top form at just the right time, first having a stormer at the Woodhouse 7 in the belief that Peter Neal had to be beaten on the day then in the Christmas Day handicap continuing the treatment with a brave and quality run which brought him home, irresistably, by some 200 yards in front of second place Chris Parkes. Sam's consistent running allowed Jim Brogan to handicap him accurately, and it was an outstanding performance on the day which gave him his just reward.

Well-shared honours too, in a way, with a gentleman who is again staggering the running world with some unbelievable performances. It quite brightened the dull Christmas morning to see Mr. Parkes, replendent in Mr. Price outfit, hammering through the field to overcome a savage handicap deficit which demanded that only a record time would get him near the front. Which is exactly what he provided, only John's smart performance denying him. But to break a record over 6 miles by as much as 22 seconds, a record which has stood for over 20 years and which was posted by an international athlete in his prime tells us all we need to know about Chris' standards. He told me not long back he thought he lacked speed over the shorter distances. We should all be so slow, as Mr Einstein said, its all relative. It was very gracious and sporting of Roy Bailey, who now runs with Bingley, to be present on the day in anticipation and make his own award to Chris.

There was a smaller field this year, and no ladies! Jim Brogan again did a good job, and quite a batch were close at the finish, including last year's winner Brian Harney and Steve Tompkin who turned in fourth fastest time behind Phil Roberts. Steve does some training with the Chris Parkes group and is rated very promising by him, we should have him in some of our teams before long. Thanks to Mick Hague for the performance list. Can anyone clarify the gaps?

finish posn		time	actua
1	John Comrie	33.25	
2	Chris Parkes	30.43	
3	Brian Harney	37.38	
4	Steve Tompkin	36.26	
5	Peter Adams	39.19	
6	Tom Smith	42.14	
7	Don Creamer	48.34	
8	Phil Smales	37.21	
9	Mick Cochrane	39.54	
10	Phil Roberts	34.53	
11	Alan Mirfin	43.42	
12	Malolm Rhodes	45.18	
13	Paul Stephenson	48.56	
14	Henry Marston	44.01	
15	Paul Haynes	43.02	
16	Phil Allen	51.43	
17	Eddie Bywater	47.57	
18	Dave Thomas	39.59	
19	Don Gill	44.04	
20	Frank O'Neill	56.4	

Fastest Times			
2	Chris Parkes	30.43	
1	John Comrie	33.25	
10	Phil Roberts	34.53	
4	Steve Tompkin	36.26	
8	Phil Smales	37.21	

Yorkshire Cross-country 16/4/96

Beckett Park Leeds

U13 Girls

1	K.Mann (Barnsley)	13.02
5	L.Carnell	13.21
18	R.Kelly	14.21
36 ran		
Team:	Skyrac	

U13 Boys

1	O.Brewer (Hermston)	11.32
26	L.Rooney	12.57
59	R.Dennis	14.58
64 ran		
Team:	Spenborough	

U15 Girls

1	H.Garnham (R'trees)	16.36
18	K.Walker	18.25
35	C.Birch	19.46
44 ran		
Team:	Skyrac	

U15 Boys

1	S.Bates (Doncaster)	15.17
3	R.Lomas	15.33
7	I.Whitaker	16.07
9	J.Russell	16.12
15	K.Cawthorne	16.28
37	T.Smith	17.33
38	A.Hudson	17.34
63	C.Green	19.14
64	A.Blackner	19.17
70 ran		
1st team	Rotherham	34
2d team	Holmfirth	36
9th team	Rotherham	B

U17 Ladies

1	J.Hogan (Scarboro)	17.39
4	K.Storey	18.22
12	C.Foster	19.31
13	L.Whitaker	19.50
22	R.Kay	22.27
24	C.Austin	23.38
25	R.Hart	23.40
26 ran		
1st team	Skipton	23
2d team	Rotherham	29

6th team Rotherham B

U17 Men

1	J.Stewart (Halifax)	20.24
5	S.Inglis	21.01
34 ran		
Team:	Halifax	

Ladies

1	L.Wolfenden (Leeds)	22.17
13	J.O'Mara	24.30
18	J.Jennings	24.50
21	J.Hindley	25.00
40	S.Marshall	27.02
46	E.Green	27.44
63	J.Chapman	31.29
69	M.Rhodes	24.46
71 ran		

1st team Leeds 13

2nd team

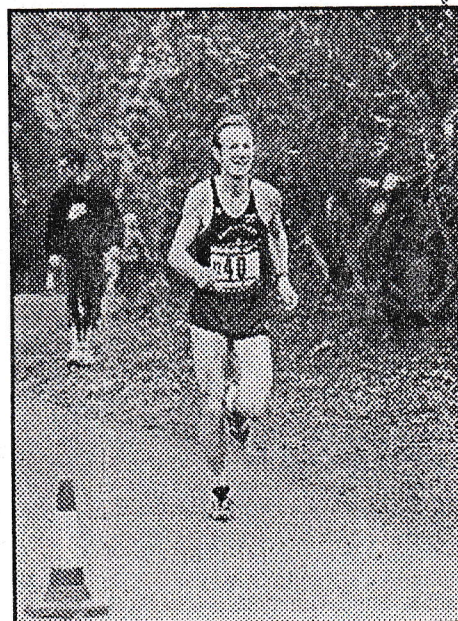
Rotherham 52

3rd team Pudsey & Bramley 53

12th team

Rotherham B

Senior Men official results not yet to hand



All Time Fastest			
1	Chris Parkes	30.43	1996
2	Roy Bailey	31.07	1975
3	Chris Elson	31.29	1965
4	Mick Hague	31.33	1966
5	Eddie Kirkup	31.??	?
6	Chris Parkes	31.38	1988
7	Alan Charnley	31.39	1971
8	Alan Simpson	31.41	1967
9	Mick Hague	31.42	1970
10	Simon Ellis	31.??	1989

left: John Comrie, who won smartly on Christmas Day, seen hammering up the slope at the Northern 12-stage last April.

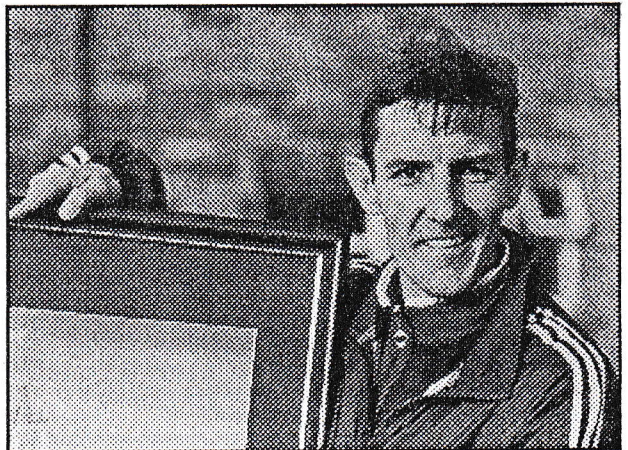
Chris Parkes (above) pictured after his effort at the Percy Pud, has half an eye on his South African venture, which could prove very interesting (ask him about it)... setting standards again, as on Christmas Day when the 20 year-old record went by some margin.

Xmas Draw Prizes

Drawn	Number	Counterfoil	Prize
1	0045	R.Marshall	cash £100
2	0311	R.Oaks	cash £100
3	0880	D.Allen	cash £100
4	1167	A.Peters	Whisky
5	1146	K.Davies	Whitbread voucher £10
6	0103	C.Ledwidge	Sherry
7	1243	P.Breathwick	Sherry
8	1250	Mr Rotherforth	Wine
9	0898	A.Charnock	Wine
10	1202	N.Wainwright	Whitbread voucher £5
11	0585	J.Green	Quality Street
12	1208	I.Horsley	Terrys Moonlight
13	0280	G.Tierney	Ferrero Rocher
14	0594	E.McLaughlan	Quality Street
15	0891	A.Charnock	Roses Chocolates
16	1101	L.Bailey	After Eights
17	0275	D.Weatherburn	Shortbread
18	0262	A.Donkin	Shortbread

Many thanks to Jack Phipps and all helpers.

new signing
Peter
Pleasants
seen after
receiving
his Percy
Pud prize.
Peter was
third at
Ward
Green and
looks to be
over his
injury
problems



Runners' News

•London Marathon Ballot

To be more precise, there wasn't one, though time had been set aside at the Xmas Day Race for the purpose. We got an enhanced allocation of eight entries this year, and eventually it turned out there were eight rejected applications only. Entries were therefore passed on to Eddie Iliffe, Tim Perks, Paul Varah, Leslie Varah, Alan Browne, Tony Taylor, Phil Snook and Jim Johnson. Have a good run.

•Abbey Dash

Our fears about the Abbey Dash result were unfounded-swapping our fourth man home Mark Ruddleston in for non-scoring Darren Cooney still saw RHAC convincing team winners.

•Coalite 10k

Former Woodhouse winner Dave Tune gave the Stainforth-organised event a miss this year in favour of the Coalite 10k in Bolsover where he won and led home a good RH team which included first veteran Alan Chell and Jeff Crofts. Dave's beaten adversary on this occasion was Chesterfield's Adrian Clark.

•Ward Green

I couldn't get to Ward Green as I usually do due to flu, but first reports are good results for Paul Venables in 6th with Peter Pleasants first Rotherham scorer in third place, the event won as last year by Andy Jubb (Derby). Julie O'Mara had a stormer to finish second lady, she is going great at the moment.

•Patron Scheme

Mick Hague launched a Patron Scheme a couple of months ago which is well worth attention, and seems to have set off well with several already taken up. Basically this idea recognises that RHAC is no longer a promising club but one of the major UK clubs especially when considered all round, all disciplines and ages, men and women. Probably in fact in the top ten. There is a price to pay for this success, with increasing expenses for travel, coaching, expenses and so on. Individuals or companies are invited through this scheme to identify themselves with the club's activities by a scheme donation from as little as £10 up to £1000. Mike would be happy to expand this information for any interested parties; phone (01709) 382121 ext 2043 (work), (01709) 371095 (home).

•Club Fees

Your club fees are due this month, £10 individual, £5 juniors, (U-18) and £15 for family. Dave Haywood can be found at Herringthorpe most club nights for the purpose.

•Monthly Numbers Draw

Drawn December 25th at the Christmas Day Race. £80 no. 230 Ian Newsome; £10 each no. 58 Derek Clarke, no. 139 Alan Peters, no. 3 Trevor Fisher. 220 numbers sold; thank you Brian.

•St John's Appeal

St. John Ambulance have launched an appeal for runners to enter a race- which could be a big one or just local-sponsored on behalf of them. As they have helped us all a lot over the years, this would be a fair response. They are seeking a figure of £250 from a runner, in return for various sorts of support before and during the event. Details from PH, or anyone you know in SJA.

•SY XC

The third event in the South Yorkshire series was held at Campsall last Sunday despite the poor weather. In fact, it wasn't such a bad day as the wind dropped and quite a good field turned up. Especially so, I am pleased to tell you, from Rotherham, with big coverage in the senior and vet men, senior ladies and junior races. Highlight of the day was the brilliant ladies' performance with Janet Hindley again in good form second, well backed up by Julia Jennings and colleagues, but Julie O'Mara on a different planet having run away from the field as though it was stood still. Her arch-rival Jill Ingham was absent and Julie took full advantage.

•Northern Cross-country

We look sound at the moment for a possible good result, with major performers available in general. With the usual provisos especially at this time of year Peter Neal looks like captaining a side including Dave Tune, Paul Bennett, Lee Collingwood, Paul Venables, Alan Chell, Chris Parkes and Paul Rowland. Andrew Aked is not ruled out but has had flu, whilst it is possible that Rob Holladay could be back with us as his problems near resolution.

•Awards Evening

The Awards Evening, formerly the "Road Evening" will be held on Wednesday 29th January at Rotherham Rugby Club, Clifton Lane, from 8pm onwards. Food to be available. The usual range of

activities; mileage awards, club championship awards; above all the opportunity to meet your fellow runners many of whom are usually too far behind you or too far in front to say hello.

•Club Championship List

Once again we have had record turn-outs from Rotherham in a wide variety of races far and near. For the 1997 season, I have started off with the Ferriby 10 again to save doubts, and we will follow up with the Norton 9 on March 2nd and Spen 20 on March 16th, good to see that they are on different days for a change.

It would get the season off to a brilliant start once again if we can get anything like the representation we have had in previous years at Ferriby, RH have been outnumbered only by City of Hull AC in recent years. What do you think?

At this stage, the exact list is flexible though I had thought of largely the same venues. If you have any serious suggestion for popular races to be included, by all means bring them forward. We will have to leave out others to keep a balance, but it would be a nice gesture to Richard Harris' former club to include the Swallownest 10k, and it's about time we supported Cyril Leason at Pillsley again after so many years.

January & New Year Fixtures

Wed 1 Jan	Cleethorpes NYD 10k 11.15am
Sat 4 Jan	Open Cross-country Berry Hill noon
Sun 5 Jan	SYXC third race, Campsall
Sun 12 Jan	Yorkshire Vets XC, Ilkley (see panel)
Sun 19 Jan	SYXC 4th race & Championship, Rotherham
Wed 22 Jan	Winter Series 3: Kimberworth Travellers
Sat 25 Jan	Northern Cross-country, Durham
Wed 29 Jan	RHAC Awards Evening, Rugby Club
Sat 1 Feb	S Yorks Schools XC, Wingfield
Sun 2 Feb	Ferriby 10 RHAC CC Race 1, 12 noon
Sat 15 Feb	National Cross-country Relays, Mansfield
Sun 16 Feb	High Melton Cross-country
Sun 23 Feb	Doncaster Duddle
Sun 2 Mar	Norton 9
Sat 8 Mar	National Cross-country, Havant
Sun 16 Mar	Spenn 20
Sun 16 Mar	Wombwell 5
Sat 22 Mar	British Vets Cross-country
Sun 23 Mar	Sheffield 10k
Sat 5 Apr	Northern 12-stage Relay, Leeds
Sun 6 Apr	Doncaster Half marathon
Sun 13 Apr	London Marathon
Sat 26 Apr	National 12-stage Relay, Sutton Park
Sun 27 Apr	Sheffield Marathon & Half

Woodhouse 7

Janet on Form, Vets Champs goes to the Wire

Scott Mitchell (Leeds AC) eventually ran off with the Woodhouse event, with our first scorer being Paul Rowland a very comfortable looking third place, then a lot of black vests following. Mitchell may have been a bit fortunate; Askern's Dave Bond trailed him hard early on and pulled him back to only a yard or so at 4 to 6 miles but the treacherous ice-covered roads near the end were his undoing.

Janet Hindley was in devastating form, and convincingly outran the former Sue Garrod (Goole Vikings) whilst new recruit Ian Temperton celebrated his first outing in new kit by taking the first veteran prize. The men easily took the team prizes but the ladies were a little disappointed to be shaded out by Goole on the day.

Considerable interest of course centred on the head-to-heads which were to determine the club championship positions. Hugh O'Mara's lead at over-40 had to go with Hughie not running, and Steve Gaines had to put two RH runners between himself and John Atkinson in order to take it. Steve tried hard, and in fact won the battle, but although John is a way off being properly fit at the moment he was just good enough on the day at one place behind. Though if there had been a head-on camera as in the horse races there would definitely have been a steward's enquiry - two Rotherham runners within 20 yards in front of Steve and two

within 50 yards behind John. All genuine stuff of course, but we will withhold the names to protect the innocent!

With Chris Parkes home and dry at 1000, the Comrie-Neal battle was anticipated but work and niggling injury put Peter out of contention. Sammy had a blinder nonetheless, coming home second RHAC, and thereby second in the championship.

The Woodhouse results are not yet to hand, so I can only suggest that Diane Taylor and Janet Pike have been successful. Certainly Parkes-Comrie-Neal looks right with John Atkinson as over-40 winner. I will get the final results out as fast as I can.

Annual Awards Night

Wednesday 29th January 8pm

Rotherham Rugby Club
Cilflon Lane (opposite side of the big field)

Next race in the popular series is by courtesy of Pat Rooney and his colleagues at Kimberworth Striders, at nominally

6.45 on Wednesday 22nd January
at the Travellers, Kimberworth.

Pat was keeping shtumm about the course but said it wouldn't be as easy as the first two. I think we catch his drift.

Green Bricks 11/12/96 Short 6

1	29.07	C.Parkes	20	36.00	B.Newbould
2	30.03	P.Pleasants	21	36.16	M.Cochrane
3	30.15	M.Haffner KS	22	36.20	I.Soakell KS
4	30.20	S.Elvidge	23	36.26	D.Buxton
5	31.10	P.Roberts	24	37.07	B.Lowndes MRC
6	31.26	J.Spencer	25	37.14	A.Mirfin
7	31.30	P.Eddison	26	37.17	M.Uttley
8	31.37	P.Neal	27	37.31	B.Houghton MRC
9	31.47	A.Gregory	28	38.03	K.Ward
10	32.48	S.France KS	29	38.48	G.Bunker L
11	32.51	S.Cartwright KS	30	38.52	K.Dutton
12	32.56	P.Vickers BAC	31	38.52	P.Fenton L
13	32.57	T.Turner KS	32	38.52	K.Booth
14	33.21	T.Stuart MRC	33	39.00	S.Burton L
15	33.39	M.Senior KS	34	39.13	T.Smith
16	34.11	J.Rust MRC	35	39.25	D.Draycott
17	34.25	T.Birks	36	39.42	M.Smith
18	34.35	P.Rooney KS	37	39.50	D.Sears KS
19	35.55	P.Haigh	38	40.00	T.Walker KS
			39	40.37	N.Shaw
			40	40.48	K.Horan
			41	40.49	D.Thorpe MRC
			42	40.51	P.Millson
			43	40.56	R.Green

44	41.21	E.Bywater KS
45	41.33	P.Widdowson
46	41.45	H.Martson
47	41.50	D.Weatherburn
48	43.07	J.Baker L
49	43.33	G.Cartwright L KS
50	43.40	J.Sears L
51	44.25	D.Creamer
52	47.16	I.Horsley
53	48.33	R.Rowbotham
54	50.20	P.Ruddleston
55	50.20	I.Lathia L

BAF & AAA of England Road Race Championships 1997

AAA Half Marathon	16/3/97	Reading
BAF & AAA Marathon	13/4/97	London
AAA 12 stage Relay	26/4/97	Sutton Park B'mham
BAF Vets Relays	17/5/97	Sutton Park B'mham
AAA 10k inter-area	18/5/97	MCAA Stoke
BAF 100k	20/7/97	Edinburgh
AAA 10k inter-area	17/8/97	NEAA Birchwood
AAA 10 mile	31/8/97	Erewash
AAA 10k inter-area	14/9/97	AAW Swansea
BAF Half Marathon	14/9/97	Gateshead (prov'l)
AAA 24 hour race	11-12/10/97	Tooting Beck, London
AAA Click 6 inter-area	19/10/97	SEAA Basingstoke
AAA Men's 6-Stage Relay	25/10/97	Sutton Park B'mham
AAA Women's 4-stage Relay	26/10/97	Sutton Park B'mham
AAA 10k	2/11/97	Barnsley
BAF 10k	t.b.a. poss 12/10	

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

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