

APRIL NEWSLETTER

RESIGNATIONS

Richard Thomas has sadly offered his resignation as club secretary after 13 years of stalwart effort, through the bad and good times of the club. Work and family commitments are the main reasons for not being able to give the position the right amount of time and effort it deserves. Hopefully someone who can be more “hands on” may step forward.

Also stepping down as a committee member and newsletter editor is Paul Luxton. Again, family commitments as well as a long term back injury, being the main reasons.

These positions will be available at the AGM – see below if you are interested. Please ask around to see what they entail and try to speak to Richard if you are interested in the secretary’s job.

SPORTSMAN & WOMAN 2007

The sportsman was almost a unanimous vote for Patrick Nesden, mainly for his continued improvement over the last 12 months and his efforts in organising and taking part in half marathon training runs along with other weekend runs.

The sportslady went to Jill Stocks for her dedication and support to the club (and the Leeds ½ marathon), along with her enthusiasm for entering events. Helen Goldthorpe came a close 2nd due to her continued improvement over the last 12 months and her efforts in supporting a wheelchair entrant in recent events.

Well don to both Patrick and Jill, and thanks to everyone who nominated.

PECO CROSS COUNTRY

Well done to the ladies for doing a clean sweep of finishing first team in all 5 races. They are now promoted the Premier League. A quick glance at the results suggests that on current form they would have finished third in the Premier League which would have been a superb performance as on recent years performances our men’s and ladies teams have been promoted from the first division one year and relegated the next. So, If we still have the same ladies next year and can get them ALL out to every race, it bodes for a good year of consolidation, or could they do even better?

Despite a strong turn out from the men, they were beaten into 3rd place by Valley Striders and Woodkirk, and so miss out on promotion this year. Hopefully we will have more injury free runners for next year? Rumour has it however, that they still collect a trophy for finishing third.

PRESENTATION NIGHT

We still have a couple of tickets left for the presentation at the Faversham on Friday 4th April at 7.30. Entrance is free but there is no buffet this year. Please ask Peter Hey or Jill Stocks if you require a ticket

AGM

The AGM is on Wednesday 9th April, starting about 8.30 after a short training run. We need as many members as possible to ensure we are doing what you want us to do in the following 12 months. Topics up for “quick” discussion are re-selection of all officers including a new secretary, and one or two new committee members at least, new subscription rates, our new off road race in September, (if T-shirt or bottle of beer for all finishers and which if any charity we support – it was Wheatfields Hospice for the last two years).

Those who stay until the end will be rewarded with some food, but we hope it will not last too long.

4 COURSE VEGETARIAN BANQUET Thursday 24th APRIL 8.00pm

We still need a few more names for this social do at the Cheerful Chilli on the Chevin to meet the minimum number. The cost for this is £15 and we need a £5 deposit which will be refunded if we don't reach the minimum. As the premises are not licensed you need to take your own alcohol.

YORKSHIRE VETS

There are no races in April for the Yorkshire Vets

LONDON MARATHON

We wish all those who are doing London (and Paris) all the best and hope they enjoy the events and have some good news to bring back.

Wear those purple vests with pride!

PBs

Well done to Eleanor at the Hyde Park 5k time trial – she has set a new pb of 22.27, knocking 11 seconds of her previous best. Gary Carlisle knocked 9 seconds off his time at Liverpool by doing Ackworth in 1.30.24. A sub 1.30 must surely happen soon! Helen Goldthorpe managed to get a pb at the Spen 20 by doing 2.49.38 knocking 14 minutes of her previous time.

Well done to all, and don't forget if you get a PB and want to see your name in lights, let Peter Hey know.

TIME TRIAL

Hopefully the fourth and final 2.9mile winter time trial results will be available on the website now.

Thanks for taking part all those who entered into the spirit of the event. A special thank you also to Jill for taking the time out and doing an excellent job on the handicaps. You may not all agree with the handicaps but I'm sure you'll appreciate it's a thankless task. If you enjoyed doing these we can do a couple more in the summer doing our 10k route or the members meander – or both. Please let us know your thoughts.

MESSAGE FROM ELEANOR – 2 marathons in two weeks!!!

Eleanor Franks must be a true Kirkstall Harrier. Either that or just plain mad, and there's not much difference really is there. Not being content with running the Paris marathon this coming Sunday (6th April) she's also running the London marathon just one week later. She's asked if you'd all be kind enough to check out her sponsorship page at www.justgiving.com/eleanorfranks1. She's running for Hearing Concern.

A sterling effort Eleanor. Hope Paris goes well, and you recover in time for London. Maybe just a 15mile run on the Wednesday in between ?

KIRKSTALL ABBEY TRAIL RACE

We have decided to go for September 21st for this event. The date may be close to other local events but we feel that this is the best date available this year to give us time to get it sorted. The date is still provisional and we hope to have confirmation from all the parties involved before the start of June when we hope to get the entry forms out. Please book this date in your diary. As usual we will be wanting as many club members, (and their family and friends) helping out on the day to make it a success. Anyone wanting to become seriously involved in helping the organising is requested to put their name forward.

BRADFORD MILLENIUM WAY – SUNDAY 15th JUNE 2008

This is a similar event to the Leeds Country Way, but only needs 5 pairs of runners per team, plus a couple of reserves? The terrain is more off road, with a bit of fell, and lots more hills. The race starts at Bingley and takes in Haworth, Laycock, Silsden, Addingham, Ilkey Moor, Shipley Glenn and back to Bingley. The first 2 legs are about 10 miles each, third & fourth about 8 miles each and the final leg about 11. Each pair are expected to recci their leg at least once, preferably twice before race day. If anyone is interested in organising or taking part, please shout out at the start of our training runs. Collette and Martin will be trying to get a ladies and men's team together.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Paul Luxton has been doing a superb job of this over the years, but due to family commitments and a back injury, has not been able to get to the club, therefore not getting a "hands on" feel of what is happening on a weekly basis. If anyone out there fancies taking on this role – and spreading a bit of "gossip" please let us know. We endeavour to collate all the information by the end of the month, and then pass over to Tom Keeber for issuing and inserting onto the website.

LEEDS CITY COUNCIL AND LOCAL RUNNING CLUBS

After all the hassle of the Leeds half marathon, Leeds CC are now looking at having a sub group within their Athletics Development Forum. This will specifically look at the Leeds half marathon and at the same time support local running clubs and their races. Jill Stocks has kindly volunteered to be our club representative if this takes off.

MESSAGE FROM TOM KEEBER

Tom is heading off to Vancouver for 6 months from mid April, and is looking for someone responsible to rent his house from him whilst he away. He clearly couldn't find anyone responsible so is wondering if any Kirkstall Harrier is interested, or knows someone who might be. I've no details of where his house is, but if anyone wants any information, I'm sure Tom will be willing to help.