

# *Halesowen Athletics Club*

# **Newsround**

A slightly earlier than usual publication date for this month's newsletter, so the ghastly and ghoulish account of the Haunted Halloween Trail evening will be on hold until November!

Less scary are reports from the English National Road Relays and the early season cross country meets, and in the month when Liz Truss's exceptionally short Prime Ministership came to an end, we pay tribute to our own departing leader!

## ***MIDLAND CROSS COUNTRY RELAYS***

Halesowen's men's team of Andy Butler, Dave Turvey, Richard White and Andy Yapp won masters' bronze at the Midland Cross Country Relays at the Aldersley Stadium in Wolverhampton.

In the senior men's standings, our A team were 25<sup>h</sup> and B team 30<sup>th</sup>, and the senior women came in sixteenth place.

There were also quality performance from our young athletes.

Jessica Dale ran the fastest first leg and Ffion Collins the fastest second leg in the Under 15 Girls race, both clocking 11:28 to share the second fastest time of the day.

And there were top ten finishes for the Under 15 Boys in sixth and Under 13 Girls who were tenth.

## ***ENGLISH NATIONAL ROAD RELAYS***

Our Under 13 Girls and Under 15 Boys teams both finished 48<sup>th</sup> in the English National Road Relays at Sutton Park.

The Under 17 Girls team were seventeenth.

*Halesowen Athletics Club*

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All three Under 15 Boys smashed their previous course best times and there were impressive competitive debuts in the U13 Girls team by Amelia Sherwood and Abbeyear Al-Almer.

The quickest Halesowen runners on the day were Alex Taylor (13:14) and Ffion Collins (20:54).

## **WMYACCL**

Walsall Arboretum staged the opening meeting of the new season in the West Midlands Young Athletes Cross Country League.

Olive Thomas was the winner of the Under 13 Girls race, while Alex Taylor was seventh in the Under 15 Boys race.

Our Under 15 girls had three top ten finishers, with Jessica Dale third, Ffion Collins fourth and Lucy Hellingsworth sixth with the team securing a third place finish.

In total, 30 athletes donned the old gold vest and the team finished ninth in the overall standings.

## **ROAD ROUND-UP**



Julie Powell represented the club at the London Marathon.

She finished 13,493rd in a time of 4 hours 02 minutes and 48 seconds and smashed her £1,000 fundraising target, raising over £1,750 for West Mercia Search and Rescue.

Our marvellous marathon medic David Lewis was 162<sup>nd</sup> in the Yorkshire Marathon in 3:05:55 and Andy Butler was fifth at the Shrewsbury Half Marathon in 1:18:21.

*Halesowen Athletics Club*

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Joe Rogers set a scorching new 5k road PB of 15:45 in finishing fifth in the Colorado State University Homecoming 5k.

And in the Midland Winter Race Walking League 5k race at Stourport, Julie Bellfield was sixth in 32:53, Lynn Bellfield ninth in 34:20 and Isabel Knowles twelfth in 37:45.

Julie, Lynn and Isabel finished first for Halesowen in the team handicap competition.

## ***PARKRUN***

James Thomas was first finisher at Dudley parkrun #201 and Ashleigh Kennedy was first female at Bromsgrove junior parkrun #343 and #345.

## ***THANK YOU STEVE!***

A special Sunday morning run was held from the club to honour our retiring club chair, Steve Millington.



Steve was presented with of a copper beech tree planted in the club grounds, commemorating his time chairing the athletics section

The second Millington tenure ends at the AGM which takes place on Wednesday November 9<sup>th</sup> at 8.30 pm, and nominations for a number of roles, including club chair, are now open.

And as to Steve's future? Well having outlasted three Prime Ministers, Steve has refused to confirm or deny whether or not he has sent a letter to Sir Graham Brady!

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## **CLUB UPDATE**

The club track will be out of bounds to all club members from Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October until Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November as work takes place to upgrade the floodlights.

The closure will be lifted during daylight hours on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November and Saturday Club will take place as normal.

And on Wednesday November 9<sup>th</sup> at 8.30 pm, the athletics section AGM takes place.

Details have been circulated and a number of committee positions are available, including club chair.

If you want to nominate yourself, or someone else for any of the vacant positions then please email [secretary@halesowen-athleticclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@halesowen-athleticclub.co.uk) by 5.00 pm on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

## **NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS**

The Birmingham men's league and Midland Women's League cross country return on Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup> at Park Hall Country Park and Betley Court Farm respectively, and the Midland 7 and 5 mile Championships are back at Bulwell Hall Park in Nottingham on Saturday November 19<sup>th</sup>.

The HACCentral WhatsApp group has all the latest updates on club activities and events, along with the club website, Facebook group and Twitter.

Our Instagram page has been relaunched thanks to James Pugh and his team of Owen-fluencers (!), so if you are a fan of the 'Gram, be sure to follow [@halesowenathleticclub](https://www.instagram.com/halesowenathleticclub).

Up Owen!

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