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**GATE
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**HIGHGATE
HARRIERS
NEWSLETTER**

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EDITORIAL

So another year starts, but what a year 2012 was for Highgate Harriers! Our men were the undoubted highlight with their victory in the South of England cross-country Championships but plenty else to be proud of. Simeon making the Team GB relay squad, continued successful QuadKids (described recently as the best club QuadKids in the South), our new branded clothing for sale (see below), loads of new athletes and an increase in the number of coaches, what more could we have wanted from Olympic Year?!? Bring on 2013!

The Highgate Harriers Committee would like to wish all our members a Happy New Year!!!!

IMPORTANT NEWS

This affects all of you

England Athletics (EA) Athlete Affiliation Fees –

As reported in the last issue EA announced in September that they planned to increase the cost of affiliating athletes from £5 to £20! There were incremental increases, but this would increase the workload of Club's membership Secretaries. There was a general outcry on this issue, which resulted in EA arranging Regional Consultation Meetings, and Highgate Harriers were well represented at the meeting for Clubs based in the South.

EA have now announced that the increase will be to a flat rate of £10 per athlete, but your Committee has made the decision that until EA make it clear exactly how they intend to use this extra money we will not pay to register any of our athletes.

In the short term this will have little or no impact on athletes as we can still register without paying, so athletes will be allocated an EA number. Athlete insurance is paid through the Club's affiliation to EA, rather than individual athletes, and the Club has affiliated so all athletes are insured.

This is a major issue, the Club will present our proposals to members at our AGM, which is provisionally set for Monday 15th April. Should we accept the increase to £10 we would almost certainly have to increase membership subscriptions which would also need to be discussed at the AGM.

BOXING DAY RUN

Twenty two hardy athletes took part in the annual Boxing Day run, this year ran on paths as it was so muddy! Results as follows:

- 1 - Ben Hatch/ James Millet (20:35)
- 3 - Will Laing (21:28)
- 4 - Peter Laing (22:03)
- 5 - George Laing (22:47)
- 6 - Harvey Dodd (23:32)
- 7 - Frank Trentman (26:21)
- 8 - Isabella / Andrew Millet (26:33)
- 10 - Julia Ruddick-Trentman (27:03)
- 11 - Oscar Ruddick-Trentman (27:30)
- 12 - Lucy Fitzpatrick (27:32)
- 13 - Elizabeth Ruddick (28:12)
- 14 - Miranda Dodd (28:27)
- 15 - Alex Fitzpatrick (28:47)
- 16 - John Fitzpatrick (28:50)
- 17 - Adrian Laing (30:34)
- 18 - Deborah Laing (34:12)
- 19 - Chris Bailey / Kevin Lineham (36:47)
- 21 - Stanley / Clement Harrison (45:39)



HIGHGATE HARRIERS BRANDED CLOTHING

We can now offer branded tracksuits, running jackets, t-shirts, sweatshirts and hoodies and have already taken the first orders so watch out for our athletes in their new Highgate kit! Those who missed the ordering evening can order in the New Year, along with a whole range of bits and pieces, all available to order once a month from the gazebo shop (see pic).



MIDDLESEX CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS



Our cross-country teams started 2013 as 2012 went – with trophies!

Women – CHAMPIONS!

Under 15 Boys – CHAMPIONS!

Georgia Fear (U15 Girls) – CHAMPION!

We also had our Men in 2nd, U13 Girls in 2nd and U15 Girls in 2nd. Pretty good day at the office! Full results on our website.

Next up is the South of England Championship on Parlaiment Hill Saturday 26th January, when our Men defend their title. If you are not running, why not come along and support your teams, head for the Highgate Harriers encampment by the Bandstand – believe me, you won't be able to miss us!!! If you can help selling programmes on the day, even if it's only for the odd half-hour, let us know.



THANK YOU COACHES

It is at this time of the year that we take the opportunity to say a big thank you to all our coaches, everyone of them a volunteer, with a collection made to buy them each a gift. The photo shows them resplendent in their beanie club hats, and each received a club hoody, club key ring, club car sticker and club pen.....in a club bag for life!



Cafe open for business

We have agreement to open up the shutters at the track café, to sell drinks and snacks (as well as the beanie/keyrings/stickers etc.). This is a big opportunity to turn an uninviting space into one that will feel more of a club environment. We have some volunteers already signed up, if you can give an hour on a Tuesday or Thursday evening let the ladies know. Below is a photo of Muriel Doolan and Beverly Webb-Brown, serving with a smile!



Café will open during Young Athletes sessions, 6-7 on Tuesdays and 5.30-7 on Thursdays, depending on helper availability.

We would also like to be able to offer second-hand athletics kit, so if you have any vests or other bits you no longer want then bring them to the track. These will then be made available for a donation to the club.

Yes it's that time of the year again....for the rather belated

HIGHGATE HARRIERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Venue- The Vine Pub, 86 Highgate Road, NW5 1PB Gospel Oak

Date - 26th January, Time -7pm Onwards

Tickets - are £10 each and this includes a free drink (wine/beer/soft), hot food and private function room plus spot prizes from the Southern XC!

Please confirm if you can come and pay either by cash or transfer into bank account below by the 19th January

Miss R Penty Account Number 52480050 Sort Code 40-47-31

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Becky Penty

AND FINALLY....

Many thanks to Shaun Dixon, who has come up with the idea of a ‘Gurn Of The Month’! The English Dialect Dictionary defines the word gurn as "to snarl as a dog; to look savage; to distort the countenance", it also demonstrates an athlete is giving his all for the club. First up, and showing the effort the club needs (expects!) is that snarling, savage, Highgate dog Richard Scott:



Get your Gurn pics to me, I believe there are some good ones out there (better start snapping Katie, or you’re next!)

FIXTURES

JANUARY

26 South of England Champs (m/w/y) Parliament Hill

FEBRUARY

2 NWL YA League TBC
9 MET LEAGUE (m/w/y) Ruislip
16 North of the Thames XC Champs (m/w) Kingsbury
23 National Cross Country Champs (m/w/y) Sunderland

FULL FIXTURE LIST AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE, AND ON OUR NEW NOTICE-BOARD AT THE TRACK.