These are your SHORTS
Please send any reports, running news etc to: barry@bg1.co.uk or barry@1bg1.com

DEADLINE for submissions 17:30 TUESDAY
Wednesday runs from the clubhouse. 7.15 start $£ 1$ fee per run pay contactless only. Changing rooms, showers \& bar available. Paces and distances to suit all abilities Tuesday speed work suitable for all abilities (see page 3,
nd pay your $£ 1$ on arrival at the clubhouse for the Wednesday run

## In your SHORTS this week!

1 General notices
2 Fixtures
4 Club runs \& training
6 Race reports and results
11 Club kit
13 Wednesday night map.
Feel free to send in any running or sport related stories, anecdotes etc, photos also welcome.

Like us on Facebook @dulwichrunners


Club Social Event - Pizza Night Wednesday 15th March
From 8.30 in the clubhouse.
If you have not already booked please email dulwichrunnerssocialsec@gmail.com and also confirm meat/veg choice.
Meat or veg option $£ 7.00$
The Awards for the Ken Crooke Cross Country Championship 2022/23 will be presented.


## 2023/24 membership

No they arent due yet, but If you are not a fully paid up member then you cannot compete in any races as a Dulwich Runner or take part in the club champs.

Any membership queries contact: barry@bg1.co.uk
The club membership year is April 1 to March 31 (the same applies to EA reg.
Payment by direct bank transfer or contactless on a club night.
Full 1st claim membership $£ 46$ includes EA reg. of $£ 16$ - 1 st claim membership without EA reg $£ 30$ - 2nd claim $£ 30$ From Jan $1 £ 7.50$ plus if required EA $£ 16$ ( $f$ you have never been registered with EA before they will give you 15months for new registrations from Jan 1 to March 31)
EA reg is $£ 16$ and can only be arranged through your 1st claim club.

## 'Wear your club vest Wednesday' makes a return

Back by popular demand! Wear your club vest for the run on the first Wednesday only of each month and you will be entered into a draw to win a free drink.

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For further info about events in Shorts, how to enter etc, contact your captains:
Alex Loftus alexloftus75@gmail.com Ed Chuck chuckedward@googlemail.com
Ola Balme, Kay Sheedy, dulwichladiescaptain@gmail.com
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Road \& other Club Champs Assembly League Cross Country Track

| Date | Race | Venue |  |
| ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Mar | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | Victoria Park 5 miles - S | Mile End |
| Apr | $\mathbf{2}$ | SEAA 12/6 stage road relay | Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park |
|  | $\mathbf{6}$ | Assembly League | Beckenham Place Park tbc |
|  | 23 | London Marathon (or alternative) - L | London or alt. |
| Jun | $\mathbf{1}$ | Assembly League | tbc |
| May | $\mathbf{4}$ | Assembly League | Victoria Park tbc |
| Jun | 13 | Speedy Steeds 5km (or any of the Sri Chinmoy summer series) - S | Battersea Park |
| Jul | $\mathbf{1}$ | Brockwell parkrun - S | Brockwell Park |
|  | $\mathbf{6}$ | Assembly League | tbc |
|  | 15 | Elmore 7-L | Chipstead, Surrey |
|  | tbc | Golden Stag Mile - S | Finsbury Park |
| Aug | $\mathbf{3}$ | Assembly League | Victoria Park tbc |
| Sep | 3 | Big Half- L | Central London |
|  | $\mathbf{7}$ | Assembly League | Beckenham Place Park tbc |

NOTE: All Assembly League dates and venues to be confirmed

SEAA 12/6 stage road relays Sunday 2 April at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park
If you want to run, contact your captains ASAP and by 18/3/23 latest.

## Club Championship Races, 2023

Usually shortly before Christmas, a list of club champs races for the following year is issued. Over the last 2 years this has proved to be more of a challenge, with limited information on whether events will go ahead and their dates. The picture for next year is a little clearer but there remain quite a few gaps
and uncertainties, notably over dates. In order to provide as much information as possible well in advance, a list of club champs events has been issued, but it includes a number of races for which dates have not yet been confirmed. More details are provided below.

| 4 March | Sri Chinmoy 10k, Battersea Park L https://www.eventrac.co.uk/e/sri-chinmoy-10k-races-in-battersea-park-6962 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 18 March | Victoria Park 5 miles S https://vphthac.org.uk/fixtures.html\#gsc.tab=0 |
| 23 April | London Marathon (or alternative) L |
| 13 June | Speedy Steeds 5km (or any others in the Sri Chinmoy summer series, 27 June, 18 July, 8 Aug) S https://www.eventrac.co.uk/e/sri-chinmoy-5k-races-in-battersea-park-6961\#rc16298 |
| 1 July | Brockwell parkrun S |
| 15 July | Elmore 7 L |
| ? July | (date tbc) Golden Stag Mile S |
| 3 Sep | Big Half L |

Marathon, 1/2M, Elmore 7 \& 10k events classed as long (L) - 5 mile, 5 km , parkrun and mile short (S). 4 events to qualify, including at least one from each distance category.

In response to the results of the recent survey, we have attempted to spread the events more evenly across the calendar, subject to constraints arising from other events, notably cross country races and relays in which the club participates.

We were unable to find any suitable trail races, so have opted for the Elmore 7, undulating course of rural lanes and minor roads.

Brockwell parkrun chosen, but if parkrun is off because of events in the park we'll choose another date

Finding a suitable 10k has proved problematic. One possibility
is the Vitality 10k but no date set and entry cost is high. We have selected the 4 March event in Battersea Park. Sri Chinmoy series of 5 km races at Battersea Park in 2023 are scheduled for the 13 June, 27 June, 18 July and 8 August. Any of these are eligible, but 13 June is recommended.

No date yet for the Golden Stag Mile which was 22 July in 2022, likely to be a Friday evening in July, or possibly early August.

Updates on events with dates to be confirmed will be issued as soon as details known.

The rules for the 2023 Club Championship have been updated - you need to complete at least 4 out of 8 races, including one in each of the short and long categories.
The rules and a table of the races can be found on the website here: Club Championships Information-Dulwich Runners As entries open we'll update the links above, email you, facebook posts and shorts updates to keep you informed.

Dulwich Runners Club Championships 2023

- March and April 2023 Events Now Available to Enter!


10 km (LONG CATEGORY)
Sri Chinmoy Mad March Hare
Battersea Park
Saturday 4 March 2023, 8.30am Registration closes 3 days prior to race


5 Mile (SHORT CATEGORY) Mike Penman Open 5 Miles, Victoria Park, London, E9 5EG, Saturday the Day Entry only (closes 30 minutes before race time) - FREE
 Marathon (LONG CATEGORY)
London Marathon, Blackheath, Sunday 23 April (or alternative marathon) Some London Marathon charity places are still available You can nominate any other marathon as long as it occurs by mid December - typically up to and including
the Valencia Marathon


## weekend of 13th \& 14th May

This is described by the organisers as a 22-stage running relay covering 220 miles of the Green Belt around the outside of London over a single weekend. The course follows footpaths and towpaths as much as possible, plus some minor roads.

It largely follows the Green Belt Way which is a long distance footpath, with a variety of scenic landscapes ranging from rivers, meadows, fields and hills to market towns and villages.
Teams are 11 people who all run one stage on both Saturday and Sunday. Although the race is a relay, each stage starts at a fixed time which allows each stage to be a competitive race in its own right. The length of each stage varies but we will always try to match runners with stages according to distance and difficulty, as this is an event for all standard of runners We have entered a team so we need 11 people to fill it, plus some reserves to cover last minute injury/illness etc.

Have a look at these links: https://www.dulwichrunners.org.uk/green-belt-relay \& www.greenbeltrelay.org.uk To be in the team/or more information, email Ange - dulwichchair@gmail.com or let me know on a Wednesday evening.

## Assembly League

## What is the Assembly league ?

- A summer evening race series that ran every year from 1975 to 2019 with a partial return 2022 and full season of 6 races is planned for 2023.
- Races free to enter, no need to book in advance, men and women run together.
- A competition between 15-20 London running clubs from north and south of the river.
- Extremely popular, all first and second claim members encouraged to take part whatever your standard or ability
- Just turn up on the evening with a club vest and we'll give you a number to pin on your vest. Club vests can be bought from Ros Tabor on a Wednesday evening.
- Races normally either 5 km or 5.6 km ( 3.5 miles) and usually start at 7.30 pm unless otherwise advised.
- Beckenham uses the parkrun course, mixture of surfaces so consider this in your of shoe choice.
- After each race organisers normally have a bar for food and drink.


## All dates and venues TBC - all on Thursdays

April 6: Beckenham Place Park - May 4: Victoria Park - June 1: Venue TBC - July 6: Venue TBC Aug 3: Victoria Park - Sept 7: Beckenham Place Park

## Rules

- A team's first four runners score.
- Lowest score = first place and so on.
- Unlike Surrey League a team's 5th, 6th etc finishers impact the score of slower teams who's first four finishers place after them. This rewards a strong turnout.
- 1 st place team gets 15 , 2nd gets 14 so seasons end team with the Highest point total wins.
- For individual awards same applies- 1 st place runner in that category getting 15,2 nd 14 and so on.
- Individual champion is the runner with the most points.


## Awards

- Men's A and B team, individual, U20, M40, M45 and subsequent veteran categories.
- Women's A and B team, individual, U20, W35, W40 and subsequent veteran categories.


## History

- Dulwich have enjoyed team and individual success. The men are still the reigning champions from 2019



# Club Runs \& Training Sessions 

## Wednesday Evening Club Runs

Groups with a leader leaving the clubhouse at 7:15pm...

## Meet upstairs in clubhouse, arrive by 7 pm to sign

 in pay \& sort out which group you'll run with.NOTE: $£ 1$ club run fee for members and guests each
time you run - Contactless payments only

Usual runs are : long 8-9M, medium 6-7M, short around 5M
If you're new at the club, we will place you with others at your preferred pace and distance.

## Tuesday evening track speed/strength

Tuesday night "hell hill" sessions all February, from March will move to flatter venue as Xc season ends and spring marathons and other road races approach.

From Tuesday 7 March - Cox's Walk 7pm, meet by entrance on South Circular (opposite the old Grove Tavern pub) led by Tom Poynton tpoynton@hotmail.com Well lit path, little footfall, a good place to run at speed, we'll adjust if needed.

Peckham Rye Common sessions all March led by Mark Callaghan m.s.callaghan@outlook.com. Meet outside front of Peckham Rye Common Round Cafe 7pm - warm ups then the slope for main session.

From some time in April (dates tbc) club aims to have a single track session at Crystal Palace or Dulwich College -updates when more known.
Comments /suggestions for sessions welcome but our summer focus is shorter races not least club champs and Assembly League, with a few possible adaptations later on for those planning an autumn half or full marathon.

## Tuesday Morning Speed - Dulwich Park

Start 11 am in Dulwich Park, meet by cricket nets, will use the grass and or the parkrun circuit - followed by coffee.
Further details Mike Mann mcmann90@yahoo.co.uk

## Thur. Mornings - Brockwell \& Crystal Palace Pk.

Sessions at 11.00am - Alternating each week between Brockwell Park and Crystal Palace Park, mix of short hills and longer efforts on the grass - followed by coffee. - all standards and abilities - Further details Mike Mann mcmann90@yahoo.co.uk

## Sunday Morning Runs

Runs start at 8 am led by Ola Balme from Brockwell Park, Herne Hill Gate. Circa 10 km , can be longer, around $9 \mathrm{~min} / \mathrm{mile}$. Ola olabalme1@gmail.com

Medium pace (around $8 \mathrm{~min} / \mathrm{mile}$ ) long runs starting from Peckham Rye Common, bottom of Barry Road, usually starts around 9am . Contact Ebe: ebeprill@yahoo.co.uk

Longer \& faster - 9am from Dulwich Park. Circa 7.00/mile pace - Tom South: thomas_south@hotmail.com
Longer \& steady - 9am from Dulwich Park. Circa 7.30/mile pace - Tom Shakhli: tomshakhli@gmail.com
If interested in any of these runs check in advance with the respective contacts

## Masters International Championships

There is a World indoor track and field championship plus cross September 2023 the European Masters Champs -outdoor track country and road 10k/half marathon in Torun, Poland from 26 and field plus-is being held in Pescara, Italy, details not released yet. March to 1 April 2023. Note that there is no selection and any
master in a club affiliated to British Masters Athletics Federation 16 Apr - British Masters 10k Road Champs - Grangemouth can enter the championships as part of the British team. Veterans 20 May - British Masters Open Road Relays - Birmingham AC is affiliated to BMAF and 2nd claim membership is $£ 12$ p.a. 04 Jun - British Masters 1 Mile Road Champs - Edinburgh 25 Jun British Masters 30km Multi-Terrain Champs Gravesend Ros, Andy M, Mike M, Tony, Steve S have competed in the past in 20 Aug British Masters 10 Mile Road Champs Prudhoe Torun, a historic town with a modern indoor stadium.
vetsac.org.uk - World Masters Athletics Championships Indoor - Toruń 2023 wmaci2023.com

## English Fell Racing championships 2023

The 2022 Fell racing championship season has been completed. A few of us completed some amazing races this year and we are keen to give the championship races another go next year. The aim is to do 4 of these races in a year to score as an Indvidual (or a team). Last year we co-ordinated cars and had one overnight stay in the Lake district camping for the Langdale horseshoe. Anyone interested drop me an email and will add you to the group. Mark Foster Markafos@gmail.com

May 13 Fairfield Horseshoe - AM 14.5km/9 miles; 914m/1999'. Rydal Hall, Cumbria.
June 3 Duddon Valley - AL 29km/18 miles; 1830m/6004'. Newfield Inn, Seathwaite, Cumbria.
July 23 Chapelfell Top - AS 7km/4.4 miles; $400 \mathrm{~m} / 1312^{\prime}$ - St. John's Chapel, Weardale.
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Jug } 23 & \text { Sedbergh Hills - AL } 22.5 \mathrm{k} / 14 \mathrm{miles} ; 1830 \mathrm{~m} / 6004^{\prime} \text { - Sedbergh, Cumbria (British Counter) } \\ \text { Aug } 20 \quad \text { Sed }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Aug } 20 & \text { Sedbergh Hills - AL } 22.5 \mathrm{k} / 14 \mathrm{miles} ; 1830 \mathrm{~m} / 6004^{\prime} \text { - Sedbergh, Cumbria (British Counter) } \\ \text { Sept } 23 & \text { John Hewitt Shelf Moor - AS } 9.1 \mathrm{~km} / 5.7 \mathrm{miles} ; 457 \mathrm{~m} / 1499^{\prime} \text { - Old Glossop, Derbyshire. }\end{array}$

## A spring marathon training plan

A spring marathon training plan - March update In March we build on February's work and the long runs get longer and include more sections at or near marathon pace. These don't really need to go beyond about 22 m or $3: 15$ hours, whichever comes first. I've suggested below some long run sessions, although feel free to adapt these to how you are feeling and those leading Sunday long runs might have their own ideas. Another alternative is to do a 20 m race or supported run e.g. the Hillingdon 20 and the Riverside 20, where you could mix up some easy and marathon pace running or run it all at about 10-20 seconds a mile slower than marathon pace - it is best to your recovery for several days, if not longer.

I've included an easier week, to allow for recovery, although you could move this around a bit depending on how you feel.

There are two club championship races in this period, and some of you may well be running the Paddock Wood half too. Shorter tune-up races are not essential but can be good race practice (kit, crowds, gels etc), give some idea of target time to go for (with some caveats), and make a bit of a change from all those long runs although you shouldn't really have a mini-taper and recovery too often.
l've continued to suggest running the interval sessions every fortnight. You could substitute them for an easy run if you race "full on" the 5 m and 10 k races as they provide a very similar stimulus. Similarly, the Wednesday club runs continue to alternate between an easier run and a longer, faster run.

## Mon 20 - Sun 26 Feb

Tue. easy run, 75 mins. Wed fast-steady club run, Sat National XC champs (or threshold session), Sun. long run or easy pace 1:302:00 hours (especially if raced hard the day before). Otherwise one, preferably two easy runs for $40-60$ mins. elsewhere in the week.

## Mon 27 Feb - Sun 5 March

Tue. intervals, Wed. 60 mins. easy-steady run, Sat. Sri Chinmoy 10k, Sun. 2:30-2:45 hours easy pace (especially if you raced hard the day before). Otherwise one, preferably two easy runs for 40-60 mins. elsewhere in the week.

## Mon 6 - Sun 12 March

Tue. easy run, Wed. 70-80 mins. steady club run, Sun. 2:30-2:45 hours, mainly easy pace with 4-5m at marathon pace - or Paddock Wood half. Otherwise two, preferably three easy runs for 40-60 mins. elsewhere in the week.

## Mon 13 - Sun 19 March

Tue. intervals, Wed. 60 mins. club run, Sun. easy pace 1:30-2:00 hours - or Victoria Park 5m. Alternatively you could run the 5 m at say 10 m pace with lots of easy running before and after to make it part of your long run. Otherwise one, preferably two easy runs for 40-50 mins. elsewhere in the week.

## Mon 20 - Sun 26 March

Tue. easy run, Wed. 80-90 mins. fast-steady club run, Sun. long run for 2:45-3:00 hours, mainly easy pace but include 3 m at marathon pace, 2 miles easy, 3 miles at marathon pace. Otherwise one, preferably two easy runs for $40-60$ mins. elsewhere in the week.

## Physiotherapy services

Many members have used Vita Health (previously known as Crystal Palace Physio) for physiotherapy services to help them get back to full fitness and meet their athletic goals. Did you know that Dulwich Runners members are eligible for a 10\% discount Simply show your membership details ID card (which came in your annual membership email from Barry Graham when you joined / renewed) when you come to one of Vita's clinics to receive this discount. Appointments can be made online, over the phone or at one of their clinics in person - see their website for more information: https://www.vitahealthgroup.co.uk/ Locations include Crystal Palace Jubilee Stand, Mottingham, Croydon, Canary Wharf, Battersea, Wimbledon and Orpington.

## Dulwich Runners Book Swap -

Wednesday 22nd March
If you're someone who reads about running just as much as you do it, then you probably have a stash of running related books. If you are unlikely to re-read them, bring them along to the club house on Wednesday 22nd March.
Let's keep it to running related books - instructional, inspirational, fact or fiction. Even if you don't have any, come and browse and borrow one. If it's popular we can have a
(4) Dulwich Runners

For the latest results, personal and club records, leaderboards and runners' 'stats, championships standings and awards, please go to:

$$
\rho \text { app.dulwichrunners.org.uk }
$$

Now also available on iOS and Android. Search for "Dulwich Runners"
${ }^{\text {atr IT }}{ }^{\text {ow }}$
Google play


## Put a spring back in your stride with a Sports Massage.

Ola Balme is an experienced Sports Massage Therapist, Reflexologist (reflexology enhances wellbeing) and DR club runner.
For more details - 07506554004

## Race Reports \& Results

## Sri Chinmoy'Mad March’ 10k, Battersea Park

## Saturday 4 March

Ebe writes: The opener of our 2023 club champs saw a good crowd of DRs in attendance, bracing the early morning start and chilly conditions, that nevertheless made for fast racing on a flat four lap course.
And indeed many PBs were achieved as well as excellent positions. Just to mention here briefly the first three overall: Lewis (running in Herne Hill vest, second claim for Dulwich), who claimed first spot in a big road 10k PB, followed by Aaron and Ben, both with equally big PBs. Six first claim DRs finished under 34 minutes, 11 under 37 and a full 18 under 40 minutes. On the womens side Michelle was the first DR as second W50 overall in her fastest 10 k since 2021. The results are not on Po10 yet and so far without age grading, so the individual awards cannot be shown here yet, but will appear on our DRastic.run app as soon as they can be uploaded.
The age group positions in the results table below reflect the Sri Chinmoy groupings in under 50, 50-59 and 60-69.
A big thanks to Ange, who provided welcome support along the course, still recovering from her stress fracture. Several celebrated in the café after where Sum had the added bonus to take a selfie with some visiting Leeds United football players, in town for their match against Chelsea.

ewis (right) leading Ben (left) and Aaron (middle)


Helen finishing happy

| 1 | Lewis Laylee ${ }^{\text {(2ndcl) }}$ 31:45 | MSen | 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Aaron Wilson 32:04 | MSen | 2 |
| 3 | Ben Howe 32:10 | MSen | 3 |
| 10 | Maximilian Bloor 33:04 | MU23 | 9 |
| 14 | Andrew Inglis 33:10 | M45 | 13 |
| 16 | Alex Winchester 33:22 | M40 | 15 |
| 21 | Sean Cordon 33:53 | MSen | 19 |
| 22 | Thomas South 34:06 | M45 | 20 |
| 36 | Tom Shakhli 34:46 | M40 | 33 |
| 47 | Robert Emes 35:15 | M40 | 43 |
| 60 | James Burrows 36:26 | M40 | 56 |
| 62 | Shane Donlon 36:41 | M40 | 58 |
| 79 | Murray Humphrey 37:27 | MSen | 70 |
| 97 | Mark Callaghan 38:08 | M45 | 86 |
| 98 | Jonny Hough 38:12 | M45 | 87 |
| 114 | Chris Beardsall 39:10 | M55 | 13 |
| 121 | Rob Meadows 39:43 | M40 | 98 |
| 123 | Charles Lound 39:46 | M55 | 14 |
| 126 | Lloyd Collier 39:50 | M50 | 5 |
| 128 | Tony Tuohy 40:06 | M60 | 2 |
| 132 | Grant Kennedy 40:22 | M40 | 104 |
| 137 | Matt Hartin 40:42 | M40 | 108 |
| 143 | Jonathan Whittaker 41:03 | M40 | 111 |
| 146 | Eberhard Prill 41:40 | M60 | 3 |
| 147 | John Kazantzis 42:00 | M50 | 17 |
| 150 | Michelle Lennon 42:13 | W55 | 2 |
| 154 | Sum Mattu 42:38 | M35 | 114 |
| 156 | Robert Tokarski 42:56 | M45 | 115 |
| 158 | Mark Foster 43:17 | M55 | 21 |
| 159 | Helen Shannon 43:19 | W40 | 18 |
| 161 | Christina Dimitrov 43:26 | W35 | 20 |
| 163 | Isobel Pickles 43:29 | WSen | 22 |
| 164 | Laura Torry 43:48 | W45 | 23 |
| 167 | Clare Norris 44:14 | W45 | 24 |
| 171 | Miles Gawthorp 44:44 | M45 | 119 |
| 179 | Michael Fullilove 46:06 | M60 | 4 |
| 183 | James Gordon 46:44 | MSen | 124 |
| 184 | Gower Tan 46:44 | M50 | 26 |
| 186 | Hugh French 47:03 | M45 | 126 |
| 189 | Ajay Khandelwal 48:17 | M50 | 27 |
| 198 | Teresa Northey 50:06 | W45 | 35 |
| 201 | Lucy Clapp 50:56 | W55 | 4 |
| 206 | Joanne SheltonPereda 53:10 | W45 | 39 |
| 218 | BarrieJohn Nicholls 57:04 | M65 | 7 |
| 223 | Paul Keating 58:15 | M55 | 30 |

Martin Kelsen M60 DNF
233 finishers, 44 DRs 1. claim (9 W, 35 M)

Most of the Dulwich crew, apologies to the ones missing.


## Cambridge Half

## 5th March

At the start of this year I didn't have any plans to run Cambridge, but once I finished within the automatic selection spots for the inter counties xc at the Surrey county champs, this created a fixture clash with Paddock Wood, which takes place this Sunday, the day after inter-counties.

Thus Cambridge. A bit soon coming the week after the National, but my best race to date was the London champs XC in November, which was preceded the weekend before by both the British masters XC, and the Sodbury Slog - sobeing a paid up member of Tony's "race yourself fit training philosophy, I decided that if my legs felt reasonable post national, I'd give it a go.

The only real issue was what was I trying to do? To race, or to time trial? I did some research on the entry list last week, and could see that the best guys running were around my level over xc , so I really should try to go with them. My half outing at Kingston last October (68.41) had given me some hope that maybe in the right conditions (cold - the colder the better) I might now avoid cramping, and the forecast for Cambridge was a dreamy 3C, so I reasoned that unless the pace was ridiculous (say sub 65 minutes) I'd go with it and see what happened

When the hooter sounded there was the usual dart from the line, and the front felt quite congested with 10/12 guys bunched at the front. Itried to not get too disturbed by the guys packed around, and to tuck in to avoid the light wind.

The first k went through in 3.02 without the group thinning out, and the pack stayed together as the pace dropped off a tad over the next few ks , but with quite a bit of variation in speed as the course twisted through college grounds (I'm sure the route looks fantastic if you aren't staring at the ground a couple of yards in front if you.) I had managed to stay off the front until about 5 miles in, by which time numbers had finally winnowed down to a group of 6, at which point Nick Bowker (Clapham) and Charlie Sandison (Fulham) beckoned me forward.

I did a mile or so at the front, before tucking in behind again, and at the 6.5

mile mark things were pretty convivial - a couple of brief conversations unexpectedly broke out as we headed out of town in a wide loop towards Grantchester. I don't know whether this was a moment designed to induce complacency, but as we got to the 7.5 mile mark the course started to climb, and suddenly Bowker and Sandison put in an effort. This caught me a little by surprise, but I tried to go with them up the incline. After 400/500m of chasing (and becoming somewhat detached) I could feel the stitch I sometimes get during hard efforts coming on, and started to panic a little bit, trying to work out if this was terminal.

I slowed, and the three chaps behind soon caught up and went past me. Bowker and Sandison disappeared off into the distance. I tried to find a level where I could keep the feeling steady, without it getting worse, and hoping that it would pass. It didn't deteriorate over the next mile, and I knew that if I could maintain this new speed (about 3.16/k, down from the av 3.06 we'd been running), that I could still PB. The next mile was slightly better, although still off the pace, and a chap who had been in 7th was able to come up from behind and past.

While he was going away from me I could feel the tightness lifting a little, and I tried to follow along. Both of us were catching the immediate three runners in front, and with 5 k to go (all of which is slightly downhill) I found a bit of a second wind. We moved past the three in front, and it seemed that we were gaining a little on the two way out ahead in the distance.

As we headed back into town where there were big crowds, I had the bit between my teeth, and we were running around 3.04/k pace again. With about 2 miles to go things the route twisted a little again, and we both slowed, but as we entered the final mile l had worked out that barring having to stop to walk, I had got the club record, so felt able to try to empty the tank, and finished with maybe a 4.50 last mile keeping 4 th place at bay by $6 / 7 \mathrm{~s}$.

Ahead Nick Bowker had kept clear of Charlie Sandison by about 15s, with me following Charlie in by another 15s odd. While it would have been nice if I could have gone with them when they made their move, in truth I probably would have then paid heavily for it later on. The finishing time of 1:05:45 was something far beyond even my " A " goal for the race (which had been to finish inside 1:07), and was a 3 minute PB. Post race I caught up with Jon Phillips who had driven up with me, who had a good un out with a $73: 42$, little down on his PB set at Cambridge last year of 72:16, perhaps paying slightly in the second half for a quick opening 10k. While I didn't see her on the day, Kay Sheedy had a great
ay out, knocking 2 mins off her PB to come home in 83:24.

I think I first saw Jim Estall's club record of 67:55 sometime shortly after I finished Paddock Wood in 2018 (running 73:13), and sat across from Chris Loizou who istened patiently to my chirrupings about the race, and at some point revealed a PB of 70 something back when I would have been wearing grey corduroy school shorts. That time in itself seemed improbably unobtainable, and when I then saw Jim's ecord, it appeared so alien that it didn't resonate with the running that I was doing Even the following year when I dropped down to 69:26, again at PaddockWood (in what was my first experience of getting the benefit of running in a pack), going another 7 s /mile quicker still felt like a chasm.

Between then and Kingston last November tried and failed to improve at 4 further halves over the next 3.5 years - the


Copenhagen half 2019 (cramp), Jack and Ed's informal Battersea half May(?) 2020 (just not fast enough), Big half 2021 (cramp), and PaddockWood 2021 (cramp). This time last year I was ready to run Reading and think I would have been around Jim's time, but a second dusting of covid put paid to that.

Of course Jim's time is/was a completely arbitrary measure, but we experience and understand things on a local level, and for me it represented something distant that I aspired to want to match. At the sart of 2021, recovering from covid, doing o wasn't something that I could have in any seriousness thought possible, and l'm eally thrilled to have done so. While there really thrilled to have done so. While there re many things I think have helped me progress from then to now (see footnote below for full list, in no particular orde of importance!), chief among these is the club-if I am ever struggling for motivation or need advice, there are always words o encouragement or nuggets of wisdom ready at hand. While Virginia Woolf singled outfans of SirThomas Browneas the salt of the arth, she could only have said soinignorance of the membership of running clubs.

Footnote: not drinking tea; not running up and down the Walworth Road; increased off-road running; accidentally breaking my rowing machine so that it can only be used on the lightest possible setting; easy access to a swimming pool; sleeping on a firmer mattress; having a smaller lunch; more mileage generally; apple cider vinegar; short hard reps; avoiding 5 k pace in training; hill reps (including downhill reps), cross country, iron supplements; not approaching each interval session with maximum intensity; trying to be as consistent as possible)

|  |  |  |  | Gen. Pos | Start | Kings 1 | G'chester | Kings 2 | Finish |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 1:05:11 | Nick Bowker | Clapham Chasers | m1 35-39 | 09:30:01 | 00:19:31 | 00:22:13 | 00:09:39 | 00:13:47 |
| 2 | 1:05:28 | Charlie Sandison | Fulham Running Club | m2 25-29 | 09:30:01 | 00:19:31 | 00:22:14 | 00:10:05 | 00:13:37 |
| 3 | 1:05:44 | Edward Chuck | Dulwich Runners Ac | m3 35-39 | 09:30:01 | 00:19:31 | 00:22:26 | 00:09:19 | 00:14:26 |
| 4 | 1:05:48 | Chris Darling |  | m4 25-29 | 09:30:01 | 00:19:32 | 00:22:34 | 00:10:08 | 00:13:32 |
| 5 | 1:06:20 | David Bishop | Derby AC | m5 30-34 | 09:30:01 | 00:19:31 | 00:22:21 | 00:10:46 | 00:13:41 |
| 84 | 1:13:42 | Jon Phillips | Dulwich Runners | m84 35-39 | 09:30:03 | 00:21:34 | 00:24:51 | 00:14:25 | 00:12:51 |
| 531 | 1:23:24 | Kay Sheedy | Dulwich Runners | f39 35-39 | 09:30:32 | 00:25:04 | 00:28:07 | 00:20:51 | 00:09:21 |

## Crystal Palace Canter

## 7 March

This month's 5 k Canter took place in wintry conditions with participants enjoying a face full of sleet in the second lap. Times were down on February's event held in pleasant
sunshine. Ebe was first to finish but unclear instructions at the start resulting in him taking a shortcut, so he is not included in the results. Mike Mann

1. Mike Mann $\quad 24: 04$
3.Jo Quantrill $24: 55$
2. Dave West 26.03
5.Paul Keating 27:49
7.Claire Steward 28:55
9.Clare Wyngard 30:37
10.Mike Dodds 30:38

## English National cross-country results

Steve Smythe writes: Club numbers were disappointing for what is one of the world's greatest cross-country races and while the journey was difficult the fact the club no longer gives proper support for runners to travel to these events (unlike most other leading clubs) explains the low numbers.
33rd is still highly respectable with a full team easily capable of top 20.

Ed's run (38th) was far and away the best ever men's performance and just two minutes down on the winner. NB 14th senior woman for Alison Fletcher in 2002 is the best ever overall.

Nb entries close Friday for the British Masters Cross-Country on March 18 at Wallsend - so far just one Dulwich Runner is entered.

NB the British Masters Road Relays where previously Dulwich has done very well at could have their best ever men's performance at M35 and M45 if everyone available has been postponed from May to the Autumn.

## Senior men

| 38 Ed Chuck | $38: 01$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 109 Jack Ramm | $39: 48$ |
| 153 Rob Armstrong | $40: 29$ |
| 299 Adrian Russell | $42: 32$ |
| 625 Shane Donlon | $46: 59$ |
| 910 Mike Beadle | $51: 00$ |
| 1243 Hugh Balfour | $57: 30$ |

ugh Balfour
57:30
1473 finished
Team 33rd 2134 pts - 99 teams completed 6 runners

## Senior women

92 Lucy Elms (2nd claim) 34:02
146 Clare Elms (2nd claim) 35:29
220 Becca Schulleri $\quad 37: 18$
238 Katie Styles 37:49
773 finished

## Dartford 1/2M

## March 5

Steve Smythe writes: On the day Ed Chuck was producing the greatest ever men's performance at any event (superb club record 65:44 at Cambridge), I was producing the slowest of my 126 half-marathons.
It's a much hillier course but not enough to explain 40 minutes - maybe 3 - and 30 seconds slower than on this course in 2017 when I had a pulled hamstring.

The only notable thing about my run is that I did the very first Dartford Half in 1977 won by future Olympic 800 m champ Steve Ovett.
I note that while I finished ahead of over 400 runners this time despite my slow run, back in 1977 I would have finished 118 th of 122 with my 1:45 time with every runner (nearly all male and not many vets) a club runner while very few club runners at Dartford.
It appears I was the only runner in 1977 back this year with nearly everyone retired or sadly no longer with us.

144th Steve Smythe 1:45:34 (1:45:22)
561 finished
 Instagram account.

1500 me 4.97 .87 / 5 zax .16 .43
Cler Elms only intiond har talert tor noming afier the
 two of the rational age groue rankings foom 800 m to Marathon Holder of boe 2068 s age group recorts se coming for al pe VWEO pecode in 2 yutr's tims feitupn foos impreswive a Clar's peivun nsond,
 parowns shes concuted. Her proudest accivements the age of 57 , and the Sodh of England 3000 m Champe

## Clare Elms

I don't think it has been reported in Shorts but Clare Elms, now second claim, but easily the most successful Dulwich Runner in history (world records, world titles and various top road race wins ie Paddock Wood Half 3 times) has been signed up by Soar as one of their sponsored runners and you can read more about it on
 tues

# England Masters Inter-Area Cross Country/ East Surrey League 

## 5 March

This was a combined race as it was decided to piggy back this year's England Masters Inter-Area CC Challenge onto the East Surrey match at Lloyd Park. The Inter-Area is a competition between all the masters area clubs in England, with Vets AC hosting it on this occasion, as well as providing the largest number of competitors. The East Surrey League includes a number of local clubs including HHH, EE, Croydon Harriers and Striders as well as Vets AC and organizes several cross country and road races. The ground conditions at Lloyd Park were unusually firm for this time of year, making road shoes a feasible option.

As I was involved in the organisation of the event, I made a late decision to pick up my number and take part. As a result, I was not fully prepared and it was some way off the best of my 12 cross country races this season, though by no means a disaster. Second claimer, Jo Quantrill had a great run to pick up the overall women's award, which was based on age grading. Mike Mann

Jo Quantrill 38:56
Mike Mann 40:29

## The Leith Hill 1/2M

## (A Spring Marilyn rather than a

## Midsummer Munro)

## 5th March 2023

I was there for the first in 2008, but as Strava wasn't launched until a year later it probably didn't count. I do however still wear the hi-vis yellow race t-shirt which is in far better shape than its owner. The Saucony Grizzly Approach shoes that I bought for $£ 50$ in the now defunct Beckenham Runners Shop, are now in trail heaven, but the 20-mile multi-terrain race they were named after still exists and took place today in East Devon - frankly, Leith Hill sounds like an easier option. The ever-trusty Mr Garmin suggests that I ran just outside 2 hours that day, struggling from about 5 miles with a stitch.

In 2008, the iPhone was less than a year old (with the first Android smartphone still six months away), Gordon Brown was Prime Minister and someone called Boris Johnson had just become Mayor of London. Meanwhile Leith Hill remains essentially unchanged at the top of the Greensand Ridge, deep within the Surrey Hills. At 965 feet above sea level ( 294 m pre-Brexit) it is the highest point in the south-east. In the 1700s the viewpoint was further enhanced by Richard Hull, the landowner, who added a gothic tower to take it above 1000 feet and he was eventually interred underneath it. He lived in nearby Leith Hill Place which was a childhood home of Ralph Vaughan Williams, the composer. It is also the halfway point in the race, but it's not all up and then down. Whilst the total amount of climb is over 1800 feet ( 553 metres), the start to finish difference in height only accounts for just under 700 feet of that; the majority of the climbing is made up of smaller ups and downs enroute, some quite steep (up to $25 \%$ gradient) with tree roots, steps or loose rocks.

With the preceding Wife-carrying Race completed and the National Anthem duly sung, 188 runners set off by the infamous Dr Rob for the 15th and possibly last LH half marathon. The route starts at The Nower, to the south-west of Dorking, heads straight uphill to a ridge before plunging down steep and uneven steps with another hill and series of rocky gullies to follow before passing through the lovely hamlet of


Mike Beadle


Westcottt
spectators with a welcome feed station. Having missed a few planned long runs with a succession of winter colds, and being my longest race in 15 years, this was always going to be a challenge so caution was the order of the day. A steady start near the back was sensible but did result in having to weave round runners who were reduced to a walk on the first hill within 200 metres of the start. The first couple of miles are all up and down, and a nasty climb at just under three miles pushed my HR into overdrive for 10 minutes, but once on Wolvens Lane it settled and I got into a rhythm behind a few other runners whol kept company with for much of the race, either ahead or behind, depending on how effective they were at tackling the


Dave West terrain. Adopting my power walking/fell walking technique for the steepest and gnarliest hills enabled me to catch up or overtake and then they would often come back to me when they were more comfortable.

Reaching halfway in 1:08, with plenty in the tank enabled me to pick it up slightly on the return but with a super low heart rate now. However I was wary of those final hills, my lack of training and the last set of steps in particular. Despite feeling a slight cramp in both hamstrings, I survived and dropped nearly all of those I'd kept company with over the last two hours. The final ascent was brutal and claimed two people with me who misjudged the steps on tired legs and one more on the final run-in who fell heavily and had to be attended to by a paramedic. The second half of my race had been nearly 5 minutes faster but unlike 15 years ago l'd been in complete control and, to my surprise, had something left at the end.

I wasn't the first Dulwich Runner home though as Mike Beadle had finished in 29th place in 1:40:51 albeit we didn't actually see each other as he was incognito in a blue top. I was some way behind in 138th place in 2:12:26, but happy to have got round in relative comfort on a very chilly day (my gloved fingers went numb just warming up). The winner was from Elswick Harriers in the North East in 1:21 just 10 seconds ahead of Epsom and Ewell's 52-year-old legend Steve Winder both capable of 73 minutes in a road half marathon. The winner was apparently the only one that actually ran all the way up the last steps. The last finisher took 3 h 10 m with only one DNF.

Dr Rob McCaffrey has organised an eccentric series of races for over 15 years, mostly around the Surrey Hills, but has now announced his intention to step back. The Picnic - a marathon around and up Box Hill and the surrounding hills several times with 6000 feet of ascent is no more, but its half-sister, the Midsummer Munro (3000 feet) is on for this year at least. The Knacker Cracker 10km on New Year's Day similarly climbs Box Hill and is largely run in fancy dress. There is often a random bagpiper, the National Anthem is always sung and wives/partners/dogs are occasionally carried over straw bales with buckets of water being thrown over them. Throughout he's had to do constant battle with the National Trust and various landowners who seem to believe that a few hundred careful runners on one day will damage the ecology more than the tens of thousands of the public who trample all over the area 365 days a year. There's hope that someone else will take over the organisation of some or all of these races, but the man is legend anyway. -Dave West


To have your results here ...update your parkrun profile to show Dulwich Runners AC as your club. Only the results of current members will be shown....If you are no longer a member please remove DR as your club from your parkrun profile.



## DULWICH RUNNERS KIT

Vests
T- shirts short sleeved
T- shirts long sleeved
Socks
Buffs-snoods

Most kit is usually available
Wednesdays at the club from Ros ros.tabor49@gmail.com
£18 each $£ 20$ each £22 each £5 pair £6 each


DULWICH RUNNERS' SHORTS - All sizes available Traditionally cut either 'racing' style, or slightly longer - Both styles are a bargain $£ 15$.



Buffs-snoods - only $£ 6$ An ideal face covering !

Socks only $£ 5$



The Beast from the East !
It's always on the way!.. be prepared..get yourself a bobble hat $£ 15$

For all club kit enquiries: ros.tabor49@gmail.com


## NEW KIT - BUY DIRECT FROM OUR

## ONLINE SHOP

We have set up an arrangement with pbteamwear to provide showerproof jackets, mid-layer training tops, fleeces \& hoodies.
Just click the link to the Dulwich Runners shop and purchase directly. https:--www.pbteamwear.co.uk-athletics-clubs-dulwich-runners.html any questions contact Ros at: ros.tabor49@gmail.com


Micro Fleece Jacket
College Hoodie

## DULWICH <br> RUNNERS



## Showerproof Team Jacket <br> Pro Mid Layer 1-4 Zip Top

## Dulwich Runners Winter Map 14



