

May 2023

European Race Walking Team Championships
Podebrady (CZE) - 21 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ May 2023


Bethan Davies
$14^{\text {th }}$ in 35 km in 3:00:13



## UKA National 2023 Fixtures

UKA have published the fixture list for 2023 and listed below are the major events that include a race walk. This list will be updated in subsequent editions of the RWR as more information becomes available.

| Date | Event | Venue |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $8^{\text {th }}$ Jan. | EA Senior \& U20 Indoor Walks | E.I.S. Sheffield |
| $18^{\text {th }}$ Feb. | British Masters Indoor Championships | E.I.S. Sheffield |
| $19^{\text {th }}$ Feb. | UKA Indoor Championships | Birmingham |
| $4^{\text {th }}$ Mar. | EA Winter Race Walk Championships | Coventry |
| $12^{\text {th }}$ Mar. | EA Under 17 \& Under 15 Indoor Walks | Cancelled |
| $16^{\text {th }}$ Apr. | RWA Senior/U20 10k \& YAG Championships | Coventry |
| $10^{\text {th }}$ Jun. | British Grand Prix od Race Walking | Leeds Beckett |
| $17 / 18$ Jun. | EA Under 23 \& Under 20 Championships | Chelmsford |
| $24 / 25$ Jun. | Welsh Athletics Senior \& U15 Championships | Cardiff |
| 9 Jul. | UKA Outdoor Championships | Manchester |
| 15 Jul. | SIAB Schools International | Scotland |
| $22 / 23$ Jul. | EA Senior Championships | Chelmsford |
| $26 / 27$ Aug. | EA Under 17 \& Under 15 Championships | Birmingham |
| $2 / 3$ Sept. | British Masters Outdoor Championships | Derby |
| $16^{\text {th }}$ Sept. | English Schools Championships | Bedford. |



Winners in the recent R.W.A 200 Club draw

|  | $\mathbf{£ 2 5 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{£ 1 5 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{£ 1 0 . 0 0}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| June. $\mathbf{2 3}$ | Bill Sutherland | Helen Elleker | Michael George |

It is $£ 12$ per number per year, so if you wish to join, please contact Mark Easton (rwatreasurer@yahoo.co.uk) for further details.


## Marathon Race Walk Mixed Relay - The Specifics!

Further to the approval and announcement of the new Marathon Race Walk Mixed Relay, a specific Working Group with representation from athletes, coaches, judges and Member Federations was appointed to discuss the detailed format of the new event and the qualification pathway of the 25 teams to Paris 2024. Council was presented with the following recommendations which were approved:

## Qualification pathway to Paris 2024

- The Marathon Race Walk Mixed Relay will replace the 35 km at the 2024 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships in Antalya (TUR).
- The Top 22 finishing teams in Antalya will qualify automatically for Paris.
- Up to 5 of these 22 teams can be from a second team of the same country (NOC).
- 3 additional teams (which cannot be from a country already qualified from Antalya 2024) will qualify through the Marathon Race Walk Mixed Relay top performance lists in the qualification period (31/12/2022-30/06/2024).
- To be considered for qualification purposes, these Marathon Race Walk Mixed Relay events must comply with the following:
- Be held on a World Athletics Certified Course.
- Minimum three International or Area Race Walking Judges must officiate at the competition.
- Minimum two international teams, representing at least two countries, must compete in the race.
- Each athlete must walk a minimum of 20 km between their two legs. For information, in Paris, the 4 legs $(M+W+M+W)$ will be: $11.45 \mathrm{~km}, 10 \mathrm{~km}, 10 \mathrm{~km}$, 10.745 km .
- Be conducted at a competition which is published on the World Athletics Global Calendar.

Member Federations and / or other governing bodies interested in staging a Marathon Race Walk Mixed Relay as a qualification opportunity for Paris 2024 are invited to contact our Competitions Department (competition@worldathletics.org) for more details.

## Judging

This is a new event which is based on team participation only. It is also an event over 10 km legs which, due to the fast pace, could make proper and consistent judging challenging. The priority is to allow every team to finish while ensuring that no team gets an advantage by walking irregularly and therefore time penalties will replace disqualifications in case of additional red cards for the team.
The judging for this event, which will also be implemented in Antalya 2024 and in Paris 2024, will be according to the following principles:

- Judging will be on a Team / NOC basis rather than on the individual athlete.
- No athlete / team can be disqualified based on poor racewalking technique and therefore red cards will not lead to DQ but, rather, to additional time penalties as follows:
- 3 red cards for the team $=3$ min penalty
- $4^{\text {th }}$ red card for the team $=4$ min cumulative penalty (1 additional minute)
- $5^{\text {th }}$ red card for the team $=5 \mathrm{~min}$ cumulative penalty (1 additional minute)
- Etc.

To note that, in Paris, there will be a cut off time of 3 h 20 m and teams who have not completed the marathon distance will be classified at the position at which they cross the finish line after the cut-off time. World Athletics reserves the right to review all aspects of this event including judging, after Antalya 2024.

## European Race Walking Team Championships, Podebrady (CZE) (Sun. 21 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ May)

Photograph(s) courtesy of Mark Easton (http://markeaston.zenfolio.com) (Reports source $=$ VRWC Newsletter - Heel \& Toe)
Sunday $21^{\text {st }}$ May was the biggest day in the 2023 European racewalking calendar, with the European Race Walking Team Championships in Podebrady (CZE). A huge meeting with 20 km 35 km and U20 10km and open to all the European countries except for Russia and Belarus.


The day got underway with the men's and women's 35 km , combined as one event, and starting at 7:30am.


Senior Women's 35km provided the highlight of the meeting, when Maria Perez broke the women's 35 km race walk world record by an impressive 29 seconds, eclipsing the record set by Peru's double world champion Kimberly Garcia in Dudince in March, breaking the tape in 2:37:15. "It is a nice feeling to finish the race and the time is a big reward," said Perez. "I did not think of any time or any special target before the start, I just wanted to finish the best I could. So, the record time was definitely not my goal today. I am happy to do my best and I am glad to see that race walk can be attractive and can attract such
great crowds like in Podebrady." Perez's gold medal was never in doubt from the first 200 m of the race and she strolled home to eclipse second place by more than eight minutes. After a 9:35 split through 2 km , she was leading many of the men following a combined race start. By 4 km , Perez was lapping some of the back markers in the women's field. Chasing the Spaniard - if you can call it that - were her teammates Raquel Gonzalez and Cristina Montesinos, plus Italy's Federica Curiazzi, who by 6 km were 47 seconds down. A lap later it was 59 seconds and growing to widen just about every one of the remaining 28 laps. Everyone else was more than two minutes in arrears. Perez reached 10 km in 46:17, 1:31 ahead of her two compatriots, with Curiazzi dropping off the back by seven seconds. By 19 km , the leader had lapped fourth-placed Curiazzi. She then went through 20 km in 1:30:59 - a time that would have placed her sixth in the women's 20 km event in Podebrady - and another kilometre later she had lapped the entire field. Meanwhile, in the race for second, Gonzalez had opened up an 11-second lead over Montesinos. But Montesinos gave it one spirited last go over the final lap and closed the gap to finish second in 2:45:58 to Gonzalez's 2:45:42. For Montesinos, the performance was a PB of more than four minutes. Curiazzi also set a PB, finishing fourth in 2:49:39, while her fellow Italian Nicole Colombi was fifth in 2:52:13, yet another personal best.
Bethan Davies (GBR) went through 20km in 1:40:54 after consistent 5 km splits saw her sit in 11th position. Three athletes would move past the Welsh athlete in the closing stages of the race, but she held her composure to finish in the third fastest time of her career.
Senior Women's $\mathbf{3 5 k m}$

| Pos | Athlete | Nation |  | Perf | Notes |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | María PÉREZ | 5 | ESP | 2:37:15 | WR |
| 2 | Raquel GONZÁLEZ | 5. | ESP | 2:45:42 | SB |
| 3 | Cristina MONTESINOS | 5 | ESP | 2:45:58 | PB |
| 4 | Federica CURIAZZI |  | ITA | 2:49:39 | PB |
| 5 | Nicole COLOMBI |  | ITA | 2:52:13 | PB |
| 6 | Inês HENRIQUES | 8 | POR | 2:53:14 | SB |
| 7 | Vasylyna SYDORCHUK |  | UKR | 2:54:35 | PB |
| 8 | Kyriaki FILTISAKOU | + | GRE | 2:55:00 | SB |
| 9 | Paula JUAREZ | \% | ESP | 2:55:14 | PB |
| 10 | Alina TSVILII |  | UKR | 2:55:39 | PB |
| 11 | Rita RÉCSEI |  | HUN | 2:57:42 | PB |
| 12 | Ana Veronica, RODEAN |  | ROU | 2:59:18 | NR |
| 13 | Valentyna, NAIAVKO |  | UKR | 2:59:45 | SB |
| 14 | Bethan DAVIES | Nax | GBR | 3:00:13 | SB |
| 15 | Bianca Maria DITTRICH |  | GER | 3:00:55 | PB |
| 16 | Sara VITIELLO |  | ITA | 3:01:18 |  |
| 17 | Mária KATERINKA CZAKOVÁ | $\square$ | SVK | 3:02:29 |  |
| 18 | Austėja KAVALIAUSKAITĖ |  | LTU | 3:08:03 |  |
| 19 | Sofia ALIKANIOTI | $\pm$ | GRE | 3:09:21 | PB |
| 20 | Efstathia KOURKOUTSAKI | + | GRE | 3:10:50 | SB |
| 21 | Tereza ĎURDIAKOVÁ |  | CZE | DNF |  |
| 22 | Lidia BARCELLA |  | ITA | DNF |  |
| 23 | Anett TORMA |  | HUN | DQ (54.7.5) |  |
| 24 | Anne VAN ANDEL |  | NED | DQ (54.7.5) |  |

Senior Men's 35km saw Spaniard Alvaro Martin lead from gun to tape, but he did not have it his own way. Passing the 10 km in 41:27 and the 20 km in 1:22:56, he had now forged an 18 second lead over French walker Aurelien Quinion, with a further 36 seconds back to the next chasers. By 25 km , Quinion has reduced the gap to 12 seconds, and it now looked like a fascinating last 10km. But it was all to unravel a few minutes later for the Frenchman when the judges sent him to the penalty area for the regulation 3:30, effectively ending his quest for the podium. This now meant that Martin was able to storm home unopposed with a Spanish record of 2:25:58. Christopher Linke finished the stronger of the chasers, claiming silver with a German record of 2:27:05, ahead of Spaniard Miguel Ángel Lopez in third with 2:27:33. Quinion still came home in fourth place with 2:29:32, a bittersweet result for him. That meant that five of the first six medals had gone to Spain - just about a complete whitewash.

Senior Men's 35km


Senior Women's 20km started at 11:40am. This was a fascinating race which saw final victory to 39-year-old Greek walker Antigoni Ntrismpioti. The defending double European champion proved that age is no barrier when she made her winning move with a lap to go. In doing so, the Greek athlete got the better of Olympic champion Antonella Palmisano, who herself defied expectations to take silver. In fact, the Italian's last-minute charge still allowed her to grab a national flag and finish just two seconds down, albeit as a result of Ntrismpioti joyously waving to all around her. And finally, Portugal's Ana Cabecinha was able to celebrate a major medal with bronze and a second 2023 sub-1:30:00 in what has become an Indian summer for another 39-year-old. Two Ukrainians, Lyudmila Olyanovska and Olena Sobchuk, were rewarded for their willingness to take on the pace and finished in fourth and fifth, while another early leader, Clemence Beretta from France. finished sixth.
Heather Warner (GBR) finished the race in $26^{\text {th }}$ place overall with a time of 1:38:13.


Senior Women's 20km (Combined ERWC \& Podebrady Walks)

| Pos | Athlete | Nation | Perf | Notes |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Antigoni Ntrismpioti | GRE | $1: 29: 17$ |  |
| 2 | Antonella Palmisano | ITA | $1: 29: 19$ | SB |
| 3 | Ana Cabecinha | POR | $1: 29: 35$ | SB |
| 4 | Lyudmila Olyanovska |  | UKR | $1: 29: 58$ |
| 5 | Olena Sobchuk | UKR | $1: 30: 48$ | SB |
| 6 | Clémence Beretta | FRA | $1: 31: 14$ |  |
| 7 | Antia Chamosa | ESP | $1: 31: 24$ | PB |
| 8 | Valentina Trapletti | ITA | $1: 32: 09$ | SB |
| 9 | Pauline Stey | FRA | $1: 32: 21$ | SB |
| 10 | Saskia Feige | GER | $1: 32: 49$ | PZ |
| 11 | Alexandrina Mihai | ITA | $1: 32: 55$ | PB |
| 12 | Eliška Martínková | ESP | $1: 33: 02$ | SB |
| 13 | Mar Juárez | $1: 33: 29$ | SB |  |
| 14 | Katarzyna Zdziebło |  | POL | $1: 34: 18$ |


| 15 | Olga Chojecka |  | POL | 1:34:22 | SB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 16 | Hanna Shevchuk |  | UKR | 1:34:25 | SB |
| 17 | Christina Papadopoulou | $\pm$ | GRE | 1:34:30 | SB |
| 18 | Eleonora Anna Giorgi |  | ITA | 1:34:34 | SB |
| 19 | Vitória Oliveira | \& | POR | 1:34:41 |  |
| 20 | Carmen Escariz | 5. | ESP | 1:35:42 |  |
| 21 | Meryem Bekmez | $C$. | TUR | 1:35:48 | PZ |
| 22 | Camille Moutard |  | FRA | 1:35:50 | PZ |
| 23 | Lucia Redondo | 8. | ESP | 1:35:53 |  |
| 24 | Carolina Costa | d | POR | 1:35:59 | SB |
| 25 | Ines Mendes | d | POR | 1:37:49 |  |
| 26 | Heather Warner | $5$ | GBR | 1:38:13 |  |
| 27 | Kader Dost | C. | TUR | 1:38:41 |  |
| 28 | Vittoria Di Dato |  | ITA | 1:38:54 |  |
| 29 | Olga Fiaska | te | GRE | 1:38:55 |  |
| 30 | Monika Vaiciukevičiuté |  | LTU | 1:39:41 |  |
| 31 | Ema Hačundová | 0 | SVK | 1:41:19 |  |
| 32 | Heta Veikkola |  | FIN | 1:41:44 | SB |
| 33 | Vittoria Giordani |  | ITA | 1:42:20 |  |
| 34 | Hana Burzalová | 0 | SVK | 1:42:29 | PB |
| 35 | Agnieszka Ellward |  | POL | 1:42:44 | SB |
| 36 | Anna Zdziebło |  | POL | 1:42:57 |  |
| 37 | Sara Buglisi |  | ITA | 1:44:44 | SB |
| 38 | Barbara Oláh |  | HUN | 1:45:03 | SB |
| 39 | Elizabeth Mcmillen | P\% | AUS | 1:45:49 |  |
| 40 | Beatrice Foresti |  | ITA | 1:46:12 |  |
| 41 | Anastasia Giulioni |  | ITA | 1:46:56 |  |
| 42 | Klaudia Žárska | 0 | SVK | 1:46:56 |  |
| 43 | Venla-Nora Nirkkonen |  | FIN | 1:47:07 | PB |
| 44 | Giulia Miconi |  | ITA | 1:48:29 |  |
| 45 | Tiziana Spiller |  | HUN | 1:50:54 | PZ |
| 46 | Petra Zahorán |  | HUN | 1:51:45 | SB |
| 47 | Fride Moller Flatin | III | NOR | 1:51:51 | PB |
| 48 | Sofiia Krylovetska |  | UKR | 1:52:13 |  |
| 49 | Lea Anika Obenaus |  | GER | 1:52:39 |  |
| 50 | Adelaide Sansoni |  | ITA | 1:53:00 | SB |
| 51 | Sorana Tutu |  | ROU | 1:56:06 |  |
| 52 | Karin Devaldová | - | SVK | 1:58:07 | PZ |
| 53 | Nelly Bugárová |  | CZE | 1:58:31 |  |
| 54 | Johana Petříková |  | CZE | 2:07:59 |  |
|  | Lenka Borovičková |  | CZE | DQ (54.7.5) |  |
|  | Dóra Csörgő |  | HUN | DNF |  |
|  | Simona Bertini |  | ITA | DNF |  |
|  | Eleonora Dominici |  | ITA | DNF |  |
|  | Erika Kelly | $\frac{50}{5 a n}$ | GBR | DNF |  |
|  | Michaela Bakliková | $\stackrel{\square}{ }$ | CZE | DNF |  |

The walking continued, with the Senior Men's 20km getting underway at $2: 10 \mathrm{pm}$. The hottest time of the day greeted the 48 athletes but, with trademark cap on backwards, sunglasses and nasal strip in place, Olympic and world champion Massimo Stano set off like he planned to end this early as a competition. He stopped the clock for the first kilometre at 3:54, with fellow Italian Francesco Fortunato a heartbeat behind. Gabriel Bordier from France, defending champion Perseus Karlstrom from Sweden and nine others were already surging ahead of a strung-out field. It was 7:47 next time around and Stano was three seconds ahead of his Italian teammate. Already a stellar cast of athletes were eight seconds in arrears - hardly surprising given the 1:17:30 pace. After a quarter of the race, Stano passed the clock at 19:34 and Fortunato was holding steady three seconds back, but Karlstrom had gone out to a deficit of 17 seconds. By now, the leaders were already lapping back markers. Karlstrom was clear in third, and what remained of the group from a lightning start were another 10 seconds further back. At half the distance (39:27), Fortunato had defiantly drawn abreast of Stano, and the gap to Karlstrom was now only seven seconds. Twenty seconds further back, Bordier, Alberto Amezcua and Paul McGrath were all inside 40 minutes. Karlstrom had no choice but to go wide to pass the lapped athletes, but he was still
gaining. In fact, by 12 km it was a trio contesting which medal they might win, not least because Karlstrom had just reeled off a 3:53 lap. Mentally and physically, it did it for Stano. He fell off the back almost instantly and by 13 km he was eight seconds behind the duelling duo. And duel they did as Fortunato pushed on with a 3:56 lap to forge a six-second lead by 15km (59:09). The Italian's eventual PB winning time of 1:18:59 even allowed him to half stop and gather an Italian flag in the last 50 metres. Karlstrom, after winning the previous two editions of this event, had to be content with second, his time of 1:19:27 still an impressive performance. Stano hung on for third place and a time of 1:20:07, which in other circumstances would have been a success. And special mention to two-time world medallist Joao Vieira of Portugal for 10th place with a time of 1:22:08, barely two minutes shy of a PB he set 19 years ago. At the age of 47 , he showed he has plenty yet to offer.


Senior Men's 20km (Combined ERWC \& Podebrady Walks)

| Pos | Athlete | Nation | Perf | Notes |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Francesco Fortunato |  | ITA | $1: 18: 59$ |
| 2 | Perseus Karlström | SWE | $1: 19: 27$ | PB |
| 3 | Massimo Stano | ITA | $1: 20: 07$ | SB |
| 4 | Alberto Amezcua | ESP | $1: 20: 24$ | SB |
| 5 | Paul McGrath | ESP | $1: 21: 15$ | PB |
| 6 | Veli-Matti Partanen | FIN | $1: 21: 26$ | PB |
| 7 | Diego García Carrera | ESP | $1: 21: 42$ | SB |
| 8 | Nils Brembach | GER | $1: 21: 54$ | SB |
| 9 | Gabriel Bordier | FRA | $1: 22: 00$ |  |
| 10 | Joao Vieira | POR | $1: 22: 08$ | SB |
| 11 | Andrea Cosi | ITA | $1: 22: 48$ |  |
| 12 | Salih Korkmaz | TUR | $1: 23: 12$ | SB |
| 13 | Leo Köpp | GER | $1: 23: 59$ | SB |
| 14 | Maryan Zakalnytskyy |  | UKR | $1: 24: 27$ |
| 15 | Serhii Svitlychnyi | UKR | $1: 24: 28$ | SB |
| 16 | David Kenny |  | IRL | $1: 24: 31$ |

Race Walking Record - May 2023


| 18 | Andrew GLENNON |  | IRL | 46:29 | PZ, PB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 19 | Ozan BAYRAM | $C$ | TUR | 46:40 |  |
| 20 | Hugo ELLUL | - | FRA | 46:41 |  |
| 21 | Tomáš MENCEL | - | SVK | 46:54 |  |
| 22 | Jakub BÁTOVSKÝ | 0 | SVK | 46:57 |  |
| 23 | Eduard KRAVCHENKO |  | UKR | 47:36 |  |
| 24 | Roman HORBACHOV |  | UKR | 47:54 |  |
| 25 | Jake O'BRIEN |  | IRL | 48:59 | SB |
| 26 | Benjámin BOR |  | HUN | 50:25 |  |
| 27 | Artur DJATŠUK |  | EST | 50:40 | SB |
| 28 | Bernát KOCSIS |  | HUN | 52:23 | PZ |
| 29 | Péter SCHWARCZ |  | HUN | 52:42 |  |
| Junior Women's 10km |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pos | Athlete | Nation |  | Perf | Notes |
| 1 | Giulia GABRIELE |  | ITA | 46:42 | PB |
| 2 | Aldara MEILÁN | 5 | ESP | 47:45 |  |
| 3 | Ana DELAHAIE |  | FRA | 48:04 |  |
| 4 | Ema KLIMENTOVÁ |  | CZE | 48:15 | PB |
| 5 | Griselda SERRET | 5. | ESP | 48:35 | PB |
| 6 | Valeriya SHOLOMITSKA |  | UKR | 48:39 | SB |
| 7 | Giada TRAINA |  | ITA | 48:40 | PZ |
| 8 | Sofia FIORINI |  | ITA | 48:50 | PB |
| 9 | Lena SONNTAG |  | GER | 49:02 |  |
| 10 | Anastasia ANTONOPOULOU | $\pm \underline{ }$ | GRE | 49:16 |  |
| 11 | Justė PERVENECKAITĖ |  | LTU | 49:16 | SB |
| 12 | Sofia SANTACREU | 5. | ESP | 49:34 |  |
| 13 | Alexandra KOVÁCS |  | HUN | 50:03 |  |
| 14 | Magdalena ŻELAZNA |  | POL | 50:11 |  |
| 15 | Emine CEYLAN | $C$ | TUR | 50:12 |  |
| 16 | Alžběta FRANKLOVÁ |  | CZE | 51:06 | PB |
| 17 | Marine MERBITZ |  | FRA | 51:14 |  |
| 18 | Akvilé ORLIUKAITÉ |  | LTU | 51:23 |  |
| 19 | Kylie GARREIS |  | GER | 51:33 |  |
| 20 | Izabela KRZYŻANOWSKA |  | POL | 51:42 | SB |
| 21 | Tamara INDRIŠKOVÁ | 0 | SVK | 51:54 |  |
| 22 | Oksana LUKIANOVYCH |  | UKR | 51:55 |  |
| 23 | Tülin EK | C. | TUR | 52:07 |  |
| 24 | Agathe MILLÉ |  | FRA | 52:13 |  |
| 25 | Aliisa KIISKI | $\square$ | FIN | 52:28 |  |
| 26 | Tabea KIEFER |  | GER | 53:31 |  |
| 27 | Paulína AVENOVÁ | 0 | SVK | 53:49 |  |
| 28 | Judit ERDŐS |  | HUN | 54:04 |  |
| 29 | Yuliia LUTSKA |  | UKR | 54:09 |  |

## Domestic 'A' Judged Races

Warwickshire Championships, Nuneaton (Sat. 13 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ May) Men's 3000 m

| Pos Athlete | AG | Club | Perf. |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Mark Williams | M55 | Birchfield Harriers | 15:29.75 |
| 2 | Paul Hawkins | M65 | Stratford-upon-Avon AC | $21: 20.04$ |
| Women's 3000m <br> Pos Athlete |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Wendy Kane | W55 | Nuneaton Harriers | 17:34.06 [PB] |
| 2 | Ann Wheeler | W65 | Nuneaton Harriers | 21:01.29 |
| 3 | Gemma Smith | W50 | Stratford-upon-Avon AC | 21:56.30 [PB] |
| 4 | Karen Williams | W70 | Birchfield Harriers | $23: 55.09$ |


| Cambridge Championships, Peterborough(Sun. 14 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ May) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Men's 3000m |  |  |  |  |
| Pos | Athlete | AG | Club | Perf. |
| 1 | Timothy Clough | M50 | Peterborough \& Nene | 18:16.8 |
| Women's 3000m |  |  |  |  |
| Pos | Athlete | AG | Club | Perf. |
| 1 | Gill Bridger | W45 | Cambridge \& Coleridge | 20:11.7 |
| 2 | Jane Mansley | W45 | Cambridge \& Coleridge | 20:27.3 |
| 3 | Pamela Abbott | W60 | Cambridge \& Coleridge | 21:27.9 |

Men's 3000m

Kent County Championships, Bromley (Sun. 14 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ May)
Hannah Hopper (pictured below) reduced the senior women's championship best performance, which had stood since 1986, by fifteen seconds with a new personal best of 14:17.17s. There were also personal bests for Ashford duo Jessica Wilton and Ava Chappell.
Men's 3000 m

| Pos | Athlete | AG | Club | Perf. |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Luc Legon | SENM | Bexley Athletic Club | $13: 14.29$ |
| 2 | Matthew Crane | U23M | Bexley Athletic Club | $14: 12.97$ |
| 3 | Matthew Ellerton | M45 | Blackheath \& Bromley | $18: 18.88$ |
| 4 | Mark Ashby | M60 | Cambridge Harriers | 19:06.37 |


| Women's $\mathbf{3 0 0 0 m}$ <br> Pos | Athlete |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\quad$ AG $\quad$ Club $\quad$ Perf. | 1 | Hannah Hopper | U23W | Cambridge Harriers |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | Grazia Manzotti | W50 | Tonbridge Athletic Club |
| 16:26.17 [PB] |  |  |  |




U15 Boys 3000m

| Pos | Athlete | AG | Club | Perf. |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Trejan Checheku-B | U15B | Blackheath \& Bromley | 24:15.20 |
| U15 <br> Girls $\mathbf{3 0 0 0 m}$ <br> Pos Athlete |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Ava Chappell | U15G | Club | Perf. |

Cambridge Harriers Open, Eltham (Wed. $\mathbf{2 4}^{\text {th }}$ May)
Personal bests for Abigail Jennings and father \& son Matt \& Jonny Ellerton. Welcome to Steph Dann who completed her first race.

| Men's 3000m <br> Pos | Athlete |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\quad$ AG $\quad$ Club $\quad$ Perf..

## Domestic 'B' Judged Races

Dave Compton Memorial 7 mile, Chorley (Sat. $6^{\text {th }}$ May)


Having just attained his 76th birthday Roy Gunnett (pictured above) showed a clean pair of heels to his fellow club rivals on the warmest day of the year so far and on the club's hilliest course. The rail strike prevented at least four regular performers from toeing the starting line and others were side-lined with injuries and other walking events. Right from the gun it was clear what Roy's tactics would be and he passed the timekeeper at 1 mile with a lead of 26 seconds in a comfortable 11:18. From this point the course heads for the sky and after a further mile thankfully levels out before the helter-skelter downhill section now newly resurfaced.
Behind Roy, the tight field was sighted within view of each other and the race was well and truly on. At halfway water and sponges were at the ready with the prospect of the return journey being less arduous than the opening $31 / 2$ miles. Roy had established a lead of 44 seconds and as he headed back completing the same journey but in reverse, his rivals were able to assess their chances of making up ground on the leader and fellow walkers.


Joe Hardy leads the chase ahead of Ian Hilditch and Pat Evans
At the turnaround, 3 minutes covered all but one of the competitors, and the focus for all would be on reducing any gaps. The return journey is not all plain sailing with a substantial climb to a "summit" at which point the brakes come off and any inherent speed is released. At the finish, it was closer than expected, a number of aspirants making up big deficits between miles 4 and 7 . Steven Wilde proved to be the biggest "improver" and although still recovering from the London Marathon he closed down his deficit to only nine seconds from a peak of 44 seconds. In deference to Roy, he too had completed a recent marathon. At the finish only 4 minutes covered the six completists, all of whom had walked with style in very warm conditions.

| Pos | Athlete | AG | Club | Perf. |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Roy Gunnett |  | Lancashire Walking Club | $84: 25$ |
| 2 | Steven Wilde |  | Lancashire Walking Club | $84: 34$ |
| 3 | Joe Hardy |  | Lancashire Walking Club | $87: 32$ |
| 4 | Sailash Shah |  | Lancashire Walking Club | $87: 48$ |
| 5 | lan Hilditch | Lancashire Walking Club | $88: 11$ |  |
| 6 | Pat Evans | Lancashire Walking Club | $88: 40$ |  |

## Vets AC Summer Series, Battersea Park (Tue. 9 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ May)

The second of Battersea Park races had an average field this time in cool racing conditions, the predicted rain only coming in towards the closing stages for the later finishing competitors.
The overall winner was Loughton's Melanie Peddle, well clear of the first male finisher Stefano Zennaro.


Mixed 5 Mile

| Pos | Athlete | AG | Club | Perf. |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Melanie Peddle | W50 | Loughton Athletic Club | $45: 45$ |
| 2 | Stefano Zennaro | M50 | Belgrave Harriers | $48: 32$ |
| 3 | Penelope Cummings | W45 | Herne Hill Harriers | $51: 16$ |
| 4 | Stuart Bennett | M60 | Ilford Athletic Club | $51: 31$ |
| 5 | Maureen Noel | W55 | Belgrave Harriers | $52: 16$ |
| 6 | Glen Keegan | M55 | Herne Hill Harriers | $57: 23$ |
| 7 | Sian Baum | W55 | Herne Hill Harriers | $58: 11$ |
| 8 | Lesley Morris | W60 | Ilford Athletic Club | $58: 26$ |
| 9 | Davis Hoben | M70 | Surrey Walking Club | $61: 13$ |
| 10 | Artur Olszewski | M40 | Veterans Athletic Club | $63: 05$ |

$3^{\text {rd }}$ South Yorkshire League, Millhouses Park (Mon. $15^{\text {th }}$ May)
For the second time in this series, there was only one starter, reports Brian Adams, with the entry not helped with exams taking place. Therefore it was a solo performance by Tony Bell who clocked 34:24 for 5 km .


June

| Sat. $10^{\text {th }}$ | A | British Grand Prix of Race Walking | Leeds Beckett |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sat. $10^{\text {th }}$ | B | Lancs W.C. R.\& Z. Smith Trophy | Bury Track |
| Sun. 11 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ | B | Sarnia Road Walk 10k/5k | Delancey Park |
| Thu. $15^{\text {th }}$ | B | South Yorkshire League \#4 | Sheffield |
| Sun $18^{\text {th }}$ | A | England Athletics Championships | Chelmsford |
| Sun $18^{\text {th }}$ | A | Horwich Festival/BMAF Championships | Bolton Arena |
| Sat. $24^{\text {th }}$ | B | Isle of Man Parish Walk | Isle of Man |
| Wed. $28^{\text {th }}$ | A/B | Johnson Bowl 4 Mile | Bromley |
| July |  |  |  |
| Sat. $1^{\text {st }}$ | B | Lancs WC Barnard Trophy | Macclesfield |
| Sun. $2^{\text {nd }}$ | B | Sarnia WC 1 Mile Road Walk | Les Amarreurs |
| Sun. $2^{\text {nd }}$ | A | Midland Track Championships | Stratford-u-Avon |
| Sat. $8^{\text {th }}$ | A/B | Moulton 5 | Moulton Village |
| Mon. $10^{\text {th }}$ | B | South Yorkshire League | Millhouses Park |
| Wed. $12^{\text {th }}$ | A | Manx Summer Walks | N.S.C. Douglas |
| Sun. $23{ }^{\text {rd }}$ | A | England Athletics Senior Championships | Chelmsford |

