



2016 Season

# The Yeovil Olympiads Report



Issue 1

## CLUBHOUSE NEWS AND MORE

This newsletter has three main subjects to cover: an update on progress with the clubhouse refurbishment programme; a quick look back at a successful cross-country season; and a preview of the track and field season.

As far as the clubhouse is concerned, the plans have been worked out and approved, planning permission has been granted and the financial contributions from YOAC and South Somerset Council are ready. The last piece in the jigsaw is the grant application, which is now with Sport England for consideration. We expect a decision in May.

More details on the cross-country season are given overleaf but special congratulations go to the seven Yeovil-based athletes who made first appearances in

the English Schools Championship for either Dorset or Somerset (*including Lizzie Ingram, Harriet Tuson and Abbie White, from left, with Somerset Junior Girls team-mates*). The four Dorset debutants were Daisy Davies, Alan Flechon and Amy Northam in the Junior age group and Jonny Ellis in the Seniors.

At the younger end of the age scale Hannah Blundy and Bradley Glover have been topping the lists in the Yeovil Area Primary School races, closely followed by many YOAC team-mates, while Fred Fisher won the Minor age group in the Somerset Schools. Well done all of you.

Looking ahead to the track season, our league programme is now fully in place, with the first fixture being in the Southern League on 16 April, closely

followed by our Spring Open on 30 April. Details are on the website; entries are now open (and it's cheaper to enter in advance). Under 11 events are included in the programme this year. Team managers have been appointed for the various age groups (contact details on the fixture card, available in the clubhouse; or on the website). They or any other club official can provide new members with more details on the leagues we compete in and other events of interest to our athletes.

It's good to report also that training nights through the winter have been well supported and we look forward to even busier Tuesdays and Thursdays as the evenings lengthen and warmer weather even threatens to break out.



**Enter Now!**

Spring 2016 Open Meetings

**Yeovil Open**

Saturday 30th April 2016

**Bill Whistlecroft**

**Memorial Hurdles Festival**

Saturday 21st May 2016

Detailed programmes available on [www.yeovilolympiads.com](http://www.yeovilolympiads.com)  
or in the Clubhouse. Enter on any training night or online.

**Enter Now!**

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## Club Cross Country



Competing as usual in Wells City Harriers colours in cross-country, our Yeovil-based athletes chose to take up the option this season of entering the Wessex League fixtures. The club would like to thank Neil Biss for helping co-ordinate our entries to this friendly and enjoyable league.

Our entrants spanned the age groups from Under 11s (*above: Sophie Gillard [left] and Holly White in action at Canford Heath*) to Masters categories (*above right: Nathan Baker closing in on Neil Biss*). There was a particularly strong and successful contingent in the Under 17s, with Caitlin Carnegie and Ben Lloyd (*top: at right of picture*) both achieving 2nd place in their respective race series, as did Anna Lloyd and Sam Baker in their Masters categories, while Neil Biss was 3rd in his age group.

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## Schools Cross Country



The Somerset Championships was the first major event of the schools' cross country programme for most of our athletes, held on the excellent course at the Aldon estate in Yeovil. A large contingent of YOAC athletes competed strongly across the age groups, with the boys recording the most obvious successes, including wins for Fred Fisher in the Minors, Ben Lloyd (*far left*) in the Intermediates and Sam Sommerville (*left*) in the Seniors. Kai Snell, 2nd in the Minors, was the highest-placed of the girls.

Conditions for the South-West Schools, in Cheltenham, were horrible, with continuous driving rain through the day. Several of our athletes took heavy falls on the slippery ground and performances generally were a little disappointing (*left: Abbie White [692] working hard in the gloom in the Junior Girls race.*)

For English Schools in Nottingham it was good to see such a large contingent of YOAC and Wells athletes (*Somerset team-members from our clubs pictured, along with Amy, sneaking in from Dorset*). YOAC's highest-placed runner was Sam Sommerville (19th) but most of our athletes finished the day pleased with their performances in this high-standard prestige event.



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