



2015 Season

The Yeovil Olympiads Report



Issue 1

RACING INTO SPRING

It's that time of year again when our attention is split between the final championships of the winter season and preparations for the opening of the track programme in a month's time. Our members have competed enthusiastically through the winter and achieved numerous successes. At the top of the tree we congratulate Isobel Glaisher who won an England U20 cross-country vest just before Christmas, as did Oliver Fox, one of our colleagues from Wells City Harriers – and Oliver then went on to run for Team GB in January.

The English Schools Championship is rapidly approaching and special congratulations go to Mike Biss, Chris Ellis (*below left, 27, at Somerset Schools*) and

Luke Macpherson (*below right, 77, at SW Schools*) who will be making their debuts in the event. Five more YOAC runners have been selected for either Dorset or Somerset, plus a dozen of our friends from Wells. Well done all of you.

Looking ahead to the track season, our fixture programme is now complete, with the first event being our Spring Open on 12 April. Details are on the website; entries are now open (and it's cheaper to enter in advance). 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.

An innovation we are planning this year is a club trip to the Diamond League meeting in Birmingham on 7 June. We already have expressions of interest from a couple of dozen members so the trip should definitely go ahead. Members' guests are very welcome. Sign up on the sheet in the clubhouse or drop an email to a committee member to reserve your place and so we can work out the best travel and ticket arrangements.

And of course to get everyone ready for the starting gun, Thursday night track training resumes in a week or two, after the clocks have changed. See you there!



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Winter Round-Up

The winter season has seen the usual cross-country programme, with our athletes competing under the Wells City banner in the Gwent League and in the various county, SW and national events. Despite clashes with school events reducing their participation, our athletes won Gwent League team medals in the U15 Girls and U17 Men, with Caitlin Carnegie's U15G silver medal being the best individual performance. One important feature of the Gwent League is the inclusion of U11 races, so a special mention there for Hannah Blundy, James Carr, Bradley Glover, Kai Snell and Shaina-Rose Verrall (*above left, at Bridgend*) who all competed regularly and scored well for the team.

The U11s also featured in the Somerset County AA Championships, with Kai winning gold and Bradley silver in their respective races. Other YOAC gold medalists were Amy d'Arcy (U17), Ben Lloyd (U15) and Sam Sommerville (U17). These and other good performances meant that

many of our runners represented Somerset at the South-West Championships where the U15G and U17M were again our best-performing teams, both taking gold medals. We achieved one individual gold, Isobel Glaisher (*above, in Somerset vest*), in the U20W.

Because of clashes with other events fewer of our runners than in some seasons chose to enter the Southern or National Championships, but those who did go to the Nationals enjoyed pleasant conditions at the testing Parliament Hill course (*Caitlin at the Nationals, above right*) and acquitted themselves well.

Indoor Meetings

It has been disappointing this winter that only a handful of athletes have competed in indoor events but it is good to be able to report successes all the same: Georgia Silcox (*right*) won a silver and a bronze (with a good PB) at the SW Championships.



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Spring 2015 Open Meetings

Yeovil Spring Open

Sunday 12th April 2015

Bill Whistlecroft

Memorial Hurdles Festival

Monday 4th May 2015

For detailed programmes see www.yeovilolympiads.com

New for the 2015 Season, a Club Trip to

Diamond League Meeting Alexander Stadium, Birmingham

Sunday 7th June 2015

Members' Guests Welcome

A sign-up list is available in the clubhouse.
Please confirm your interest ASAP so we can
finalise costs, travel details, etc.