Roadhoggs Leicester A.C.



March/April 2017

Established 10/08/1984 Affiliated MCAA,LRRL, DRL,RWA.

Thank You!

Volunteering is a vital part of our sport. Without scores of race organisers, officials and an army of marshals none of the races we enjoy so much would ever happen. We try not to call on members too often but when we do, you don't let us down. Our turn to organise the Kibworth 6 coincided with changes to the Winter League entry system, so we had the honour of being guinea pigs. Whilst a few relish the challenge of the hills, most people wouldn't enter the event if it wasn't a league race. Such is the drawing power of the LRRL however, we reached our limit of 600 in about 16 hours. As a consequence, the Leicester Runners Facebook group almost went into meltdown as those who missed out queued up to question how the league could possibly manage without them.

The paperwork involved in staging a race increases year on year but hopefully work done and bridges built this time will stand us in good stead when our turn comes round again. We've had lots of positive feedback including a lot of praise for our hardy marshals who braved the grotty weather. Many thanks to everyone who helped to make the day a success.

Leicestershire Road Running League 2017		Roadhoggs at the National
Winter League		RRC
Desford 5	26 th March	
Summer League		ROAMING BACKTER
West End 8 Gaddesby 7	7 th May 21 st May	513 5134
Swithland 6 Hungarton 7	4 th June 5 th July	
Joy Cann 5	2 nd August	
Carl Rutt 10K John Fraser 10	13 th August 3 rd September	
All races are now by individual online pre-entry.		
		Read all about our debut at national level (page 6).
In This Issue		Member News
For the record (page 2), Cross Country (page 3), Road Running (page 8).		A very warm welcome to new members Marc, Sam C, Brhane, Helen, Asma, Caroline, Tegan and Trevor.
Picture credits: Jackie Brown, Stephen Lee, Gary Ashwell, Clive Mason.		Congratulations to Clare and Robin on their engagement and to James B and partner Nicola on the birth of Luna.

For the Record

l Vr	or 28/1/17				
Igor Burbela	19th	20.57			
Marcus Shaikh	36th	22.59			
Emma Raven	47th	23.28			
Alison Lodwick	175th	33.47			
	al Palace pr	55.17			
Kathryn Evans	78th	24.53			
Brian Feldman	107th	31.55			
Brian Feldman 10/th 31.55 Bpr 28/1/17					
James Thurman	19th	19.51			
Rachel Dearden	37th	21.08			
Max Barratt	61st	22.47			
Ben Milsom	65th	22.54			
Jeannette Franklin	210th	28.58			
	Palmas 10K	20100			
Steve Palmer	311th	46.08			
	or 4/2/17	10.00			
Max Barratt	17th	19.13(PB)			
Sam Jolly	23rd	19.41			
Ben Milsom	87th	22.50			
Kathryn Evans	167th	26.03			
Maria O'Malley	223rd	28.30			
	pr 4/2/17	20.30			
Steve Barnes	66th	23.45			
	pr 4/2/17	25.15			
Steve Wheeler	34th	22.02			
Richard Curtis	46th	22.41			
Shaun Heaphy	114th	26.43			
Jeannette Franklin	156th	28.40			
Brian Feldman	187th	30.33			
Alison Lodwick	214th	32.41			
	atford HM	32.41			
Brian Feldman	1489th	2.18.20			
Charnw	rood Hills Race	2.10.20			
Dave Lodwick	115th	2.01.56			
Kathryn Evans	226th	2.21.10			
Marcus Shaikh	227th	2.21.24			
Lee Hennell	289th	2.38.15			
		2.30.13			
Gloucester Marathon John Stew 175th 5.22.42					
Jon Heap	176th	5.22.42			
Bpr 11/217					
Max Barratt	51st	22.40			
Ben Milsom	58th	22.50			
Baz Barratt	140th	27.08			
	or 11/2/17	27.00			
Steve Barnes	54th	23.44			
	g Common pr	25.11			
Kathryn Evans	159th	25.21			
-	or 11/2/17	20121			
James Thurman	14th	20.13			
Igor Burbela	23rd	21.17			
Richard Curtis	38th	22.12			
Lee Hennell	67th	23.52			
Maria O'Malley	128th	27.46			
Stamford Valentines 30K					
Brian Feldman	566th	3.33.31			
Bran Fetaman 500th 5.33.31 Bpr 18/2/17					
James Thurman 19th 19.29					

Ben Milsom	87th	22.55			
Max Barratt	110th	23.55			
	or 18/2/17	25.55			
Marcus Shaikh	28th	22.00(PB)			
Terry Woodhouse	29th	22.00(1.0)			
Richard Curtis	39th	22.32			
Lee Hennell	67th	24.08			
Rachel Dearden	68th	24.00			
Jacqui Dean	124th	28.10			
Ruth Stevely	125th	28.13			
Brian Feldman	172nd	31.11			
	ries 10 Miler	51.11			
Chris Peach	84th	1.29.04			
	pr 25/2/17	1.27.04			
Rob Milstead	19th	21.09			
Steve Barnes	68th	24.11			
	or 25/2/17	27,11			
Richard Curtis	42nd	22.07			
Liz Butler	242nd	31.39			
	Challenge 26M	51.57			
Chris Peach	226th	6.11.45			
	al XC (Senior Wo				
Rachel Dearden	365th	39.44			
Jacqui Dean	727th	51.20			
	nal XC (Senior A				
James Boyd	887th	53.39			
James Thurman	1317th	1.00.08			
Dave Lodwick	1329th	1.00.17			
Ben Milsom	1403rd	1.01.25			
Terry Woodhouse	1496th	1.03.44			
Brian Feldman	1757th	1.28.12			
	or 4/3/17	1.20.12			
Ben Milsom	53rd	22.54			
lan Bass	218th	29.39			
Max Barratt	241st	30.29			
Pegwell Bay pr					
Brian Feldman	109th	30.21			
	g Common pr	50.21			
Kathryn Evans	121st	24.14			
,	pr 4/3/17				
Marcus Shaikh	41st	22.18			
	pr 4/3/17				
Steve Barnes	181st	28.55			
	eswick pr				
James Thurman	7th	19.58			
Rachel Dearden	73rd	27.05			
	arwick HM				
Aruna Bhagwan		2.11.05			
Town & Gown 10K					
Emma Raven	26th (2nd F,	45.30(PB)			
	1st FV)				
Sam Conlon	56th	48.46			
Chris Willmott	100th	53.16			
Maria O'Malley	137th	57.00			
Terry Woodhouse	150th	58.26			
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Gettin' Muddy with Kim

Derby Runner League Race 5 -Bagworth 29/1/17

The day started bright at Bagworth Heath as we assembled at our mobile hospitality unit. The girls arrived first, they are so keen to get out there in the countryside, and then the men came along in their groups until we had more than enough to fill up our teams. Sam, with Dale and Lee on board, took a wrong turn somewhere and they only made it with minutes to spare and with a quick dash from where they parked the car, not the best preparation. Young Max Barratt made his debut for us, watched by proud dad Baz, and it was good to welcome back Lee and Janet who we have not seen at cross-country for a while. In the junior race, Mya Bromwich, another Roadhoggs' offspring, managed to lose her shoe and ran most of the race carrying it ... she did well to finish.



Max: Improving race by race

The Bagworth course was 6.5 miles around 2 laps, each with a long uphill drag at the start and a steep climb in the second half. The course is known for being muddy and we had plenty of rain during the week so there was plenty of the brown stuff underfoot. There are some narrow sections where you cannot overtake so you sit behind and wait for the wider sections, either hanging on to the runner in front or getting a breather. Big Sam had one of his better runs of late and was our first runner home again. Dave Lod is still on top form and was next in, ahead of James T and Ben. To be fair to Ben, our own Forrest Gump, he ran a parkrun and a Midlands cross-country event the day before, not to mention that the Midlands event was 2 miles over distance! Max made a very promising debut and we will see more from him for sure. Steve W somehow managed exactly the same position as the previous race at Sinai, although there were

more runners here ... does he count the runners in front of him? Lee ran in nice clean road shoes and worked hard to stay on his feet, whereas both Shaun and Dale ran in their trusted off-road shoes and both fell over, twice in Dale's case. For the girls Leah was our first home, and then Janet who surprised us all with a terrific run. Amy and Barbara completed the team, followed by Trudy as rock-steady as ever.



Ben giving 100%, as always

Our team positions have improved race by race, from 11^{th} (Men), 13^{th} (ladies) and 11^{th} (combined) in division 2 after the first race at Holly Hayes to 5^{th} (men), 8^{th} (ladies) and 7^{th} (combined) after this 5^{th} race. If we can continue this push in the 2 remaining races in this league season, we will be set up nicely for a promotion push next year so let's keep this up guys!



Sam: Another excellent run

After the race, we enjoyed a selection of cakes from our master bakers Trudy and Ben, as always a real treat after a hard run. Then it clouded over and started to rain before I could get the tent packed away, but dear Roadhoggs, it will be dry and ready to shelter you at the next race at Allestree Park in Derby on Sunday 19th February. RESULTS (provisional):

MEN: 68th Sam Jolly 49.39, 111th Dave Lodwick (V55) 52.28, 114th James Thurman 52.41, 128th Ben Milsom 53.34, 137th Dale Jenkins (V55) 54.39, 138th Max Barratt (U20) 54.40, 205th Steve Robinson (V40) 61.16, 208th Steve Wheeler (V45) 61.25, 212th Hitesh Pandya (V50) 61.53, 217th Marcus Shaikh (V40) 62.11, 241st Lee Hubbard 65.35, 286th Shaun Heaphy (V55) 76.19, 292 finished.

LADIES: 62nd Leah Boatman 64.15, 95th Janet Hall (V40) 70.07, 106th Amy Gasper 72.03, 116th Barbara Hermann 73.56, 132nd Trudy Sharpe (V45) 77.37, 163 finished.

TEAMS (all division 2): Men 6th, Ladies 7th, Combined 7th.

TEAMS AFTER 5 RACES: Men 5th, Ladies 8th, Combined 7th.

Derby Runner League Race 6 -Allestree 19/2/17

It was bright and sunny as we assembled on the edge of Allestree Park, just off the A6 north of Derby. This was the penultimate event of this season's Leicestershire and Derbyshire league. Roadhoggs are sitting quite well in Division two, having slowly climbed a few places over the previous 5 races, and with a good result here and at the last event at Bosworth Battlefield in 2 weeks' time, we should finish near the top and ready to make a bigger push for promotion next season. So I was hoping that our runners would answer the call today and they did not disappoint; a dozen guys and half a dozen of our girls made the trip up to Derbyshire and we gathered together in the sunshine around the club's mobile hospitality and recovery centre for some jolly chat and to talk about the course. It was good to welcome back Bec Bromwich, after a long absence through injury.



Welcome back Bec!

Young Mva Bromwich ran the junior race to maintain her 100% record, and even managed to finish this time wearing both shoes! Meantime our senior girls were enjoying that rare luxury at a cross-country race ... a real toilet. There was one for the guys too but I saw many doing the usual man-thing and making use of the natural facilities in the nearby woods. Then it started to cloud over, but it didn't rain and the weather staved dry and calm as the Roadhoggs team stripped off their outer layers and made the short walk to the start in a nearby field, along with 500 other runners. The Allestree course is 6 miles over 2 laps around the perimeter of the park, which includes some very muddy sections but also some grassland and gravel paths. There are some tough climbs around each lap (I think I always say this about league cross-country courses!) but at least the end of the lap involves a good downhill and then a flat run around the lake before the run to the line. From our standpoint at the lap change, you could see runners coming around the lake at the end of the first lap, and setting off around the field at the start of the second.



Gummi: Still not convinced by this cross country lark

In the men's race, it was good to see our young bucks leading the way; Sam, Gurmit, Ben and James took the first team places. Sam is having a really good cross-country season for Roadhoggs. Dave Lod was in next, and then young Max Barratt, aged just 16, who is getting better and moving up the team with each race ... watch out you guys up front! Dale and Lee completed the team scores, with Lee having a much better run that last time at Bagworth Heath. The men's team packed well and came in 6th. For the girls, Bec was our first home in her first cross country race for a long time; we hope you can stay injury-free and start enjoying your running again Bec. Barbara, Natasha and Trudy completed the team in 9th. I would like to

especially mention Liz; she would be the first to admit that she is a slower runner and she finds running really hard work. We all work hard at our running but, if you are slower, then you are working hard for longer. But Liz does not quit, she just keeps going until she reaches the finish, and we made sure that we were there to cheer her in.



Rachel: Top performer

Afterwards we enjoyed the usual yummy postrace carbo replacement treats provided by Trudy and Ben. The overall team improved another place to 6^{th} . Now we have one more race to gain another place or two in the division, so I look forward to seeing you all at the final race this season at Bosworth Battlefield on 5^{th} March.

RESULTS:

MEN: 74th Sam Jolly 48.14, 93rd Gurmit Singh 49.48, 103rd Ben Milsom 50.22, 118th James Thurman 51.15, 123rd Dave Lodwick (V55) 51.26, 126th Max Barratt (U20) 51.47, 139th Dale Jenkins (V55) 52.24, 169th Lee Hubbard 55.43, 183rd Steve Robinson (V40) 57.29, 204th Marcus Shaikh (V40) 59.28, 207th Hitesh Pandya (V50) 59.46, 271st Shaun Heaphy (V55) 73.39, 277 finished. LADIES: 56th Rebecca Bromwich 60.16, 123rd Barbara Hermann 70.52, 125th Natasha Eastwood 71.10, 148th Trudy Sharpe (V45) 77.04, 150th Jeanette Franklin (V55) 78.50, 166th Liz Butler 89.14, 166 finished. TEAMS (all division 2): Men 6th, Ladies 9th,

Combined 7th.

TEAMS AFTER 6 RACES: Men 5th, Ladies 7th, Combined 6th.



Barbara looking focussed

Derby Runner League Race 7 -Bosworth 5/3/17

We came to the last league race this season at the Battlefield Centre on a cold, wet and windy morning. Luckily Helen arrived early with me and was able to hold on to the tent until I could get it pegged down. At least the rain stopped during the race itself so conditions for the runners were not quite so unpleasant, but it returned later so everyone was jostling for space inside the tent both before and after the race. Roadhoggs' girls arrived earlier than the guys; about an hour before the start we already had 6 ladies ready to run, but only a couple of men. The rest of our team soon rolled up though and we started the race with 9 men and 7 ladies and kept our record of full teams all through this season. Trudy arrived with a black eve from a training run fall, but confirmed that her legs and hands were still working ok so she was still quite capable of running and baking for the team.

The Battlefield course is another multi-lap course which returns past the start/finish area a couple of times so you can see your team runners at different parts of the race. The constant rain made the ground which was already very muddy into a very, VERY muddy 5.8 miles; just about everyone came in with their lower halves completely covered with the cold and wet and brown stuff. Additional hazards kindly provided on the day by the host club (Hinckley) included a mud pit, more than knee deep, and a deep gully with steep sides where the best option was to grab tree branches as you went down to help keep your balance. Both were difficult enough for the front runners but even more difficult for the runners further back as the runners ahead of them made the mud pit deeper and broke off most of the branches!



Max and James

Once again Big Sam led the men home, chased all the way by Ben who was gaining ground but then fell and hurt a rib at the mud pit. Dave Pearce was next in but unfortunately did not score points for us as he was a guest runner. Then James Thurman with another great run and then Dave Lod, capping his best cross-country season for a few years. Next in was young Max Barratt who clearly has inherited his Dad's running genes and continues to improve with each race. Our men packed well again and achieved 6th place in the division. Rachel had another terrific run for the girls, supported by Jackie and Bec who are both less than 100% fit right now but still gave it their best. Trudy, Jeanette, Helen and Barbara all dragged each other round, with Barbara struggling after giving blood only two days earlier. The ladies also finished 6th and the combined team 6th. another good result for us. The cakes and coffee were welcomed as always (thanks Trudy and Ben) and helped our runners to recover from the cold and wet weather.



Jeannette's face shows the strain of those Allestree hills

I would like to thank all of the Roadhoggs team for their hard efforts at every race through what was a very tough cross-country league season. All of the courses were challenging and the hills and mud sections were truly energy-sapping, but our guys and girls always rise to the challenge and run for each other as well as for Roadhoggs. We started lower down in division two after the first race (men 11th, ladies 13th, combined 11th) but improved race by race and finished the season in much better positions (men 5th, ladies 7th, combined 6th) and well placed to mount a promotion challenge next season. Extra thanks to our bake-off champions Trudy and Ben for providing the post-race rewards which are so enjoyed by everyone. Bring on next season!



Trudy: The secret of our success

RESULTS (provisional):

MEN: 62nd Sam Jolly 44.15, 74th Ben Milsom 44.59, 85th Dave Pearce (V50 2nd claim) 45.44, 107th James Thurman 47.23, 111th Dave Lodwick (V55) 47.44, 113th Max Barratt (U20) 47.57, 138th Marc Draycott (V45) 50.13, 145th Lee Hubbard 50.57, 181st Marcus Shaikh (V40) 55.59, 251 finished.

LADIES: 24th Rachel Dearden 51.15, 44th Jackie Brown (V50) 54.28, 55th Rebecca Bromwich 56.47, 133rd Trudy Sharpe (V45) 75.02, 135th Jeanette Franklin (V55) 75.23, 136th Helen Arthur (V45) 76.04, 140th Barbara Hermann 77.25, 160 finished.

TEAMS (all division 2): Men 6th, Ladies 6th, Combined 6th.

FINAL TEAMS AFTER 7 RACES: Men 5th, Ladies 7th, Combined 6th.

English National XC Championships

Brian Feldman

The Roadhoggs flag was planted at the English National Cross Country Championships for the

first time on Saturday 24th. February at Wollaton Park Nottingham. Apart from Brian, who had run several of these races before, no one else had any idea of what it would be like so there was a fair amount of excitement and anxiety - "Will I be last?" was one comment. In the event, no Roadhogg was last and everyone had a great time.



Jacqui getting stuck in

Each club was assigned to a pen along the 200 metre start line, having organised the Roadhoggs involvement, Brian was given the "honour" of being in the front. Alongside him was another runner equally unfamiliar with having no one in front in a race. The competitors were called forward to the starting line and when the gun went off Brian was in the lead for a nano-second before being mown down by his fellow Roadhoggs. Facebook has videos of the starts of the men's and women's races and you cannot fail to be enthralled by the sight of 780+ runners, in the women's race, and more than 1762 competitors in the men's event, charging uphill. It was really exciting to be part of the field. Both fields had larger numbers than last year.

This was true cross-country course with mud, hills, long straights, streams and more mud. Every Roadhogg made a magnificent effort as is demonstrated by the results below:

Men 12k (1762 ran)- James Boyd 887 (0:53:39), James Thurman 1317 (1:00:08), Dave Lodwick 1329 (1:00:17), Ben 1403 (1:01:25), Terry Woodhouse 1496 (1:03:44) & Brian Feldman 1757 (1:28:12)

Women 8k (788 ran)- Rachel Dearden 365 (0:39:44), Jacqui Dean 727 (0:51:20)



James powering through the mud

Of Leicestershire clubs only Owls AC, Charnwood and Hermitage had teams while Desford and Coritanians had just 3 runners, two of whom are Roadhoggs second claim. Roadhoggs is not a club chasing honours but everyone enjoyed being part of a wonderful cross-country occasion and testing themselves against the country's best.

Later this year Kim and Brian will be canvassing for entries to the County, Midlands Regional and National Cross Country Championships so come on and join in the fun.



None of your manicured grass here: Proper XC!

Road Running

Leicester Running Shop LRRL Winter League: Kibworth 6

The poor weather had been forecast for days but at least we managed to avoid the sort of heavy snowfall or ice that would have threatened the staging of the race. Temperatures hovered just above freezing and the Easterly wind and sleet made it quite miserable in the run up to the start. Of course things never seem so bad once you're up and running. Unusually, we didn't have any new runners but we were pleased to welcome back Leah, Stephen and Sam after some time away.

Mark R may be building back up after an injury lay off and in the middle of Marathon training but he still had enough speed to lead the team home in 44th. James B (56th) has been putting in some quality training and this was reflected in a 35 second course PB. Behind these two there was a great battle among the 'young guns'. James T (another adding quality to his training) continued his rise up the rankings with a sub-40 for 84th, Sam (95th) made it four Hoggs in a high quality top 100 and Ben (101st) and Max (105th) packed well.



James: Quality performance

Dale (135th) was the first of our vets and Gummi (153rd) held off Stephen (157th) and Dave L (159th) to be eighth counter. Steve W (195th) and Hitesh (206th) completed the vets' team. Roger (224th) and Shaun (286th) capped of a strong opening performance from our men. Female representation in LRRL races has been rising steadily and there are now two ladies for every three men, leading for pressure to increase the numbers of counters. Rather than reflect this ratio and take the pressure off race entry by reducing men's teams from 8 to 6, the clubs with the strongest line ups pushed through a proposal for ladies teams to have 6 counters. As a consequence, we were one short for Kibworth.



Charlotte clearly loves Gumley Hill!

Emma (24th) and Charlotte (30th) both picked up where they left off in 2017 with excellent runs. Leah seems to have come back quicker and had a great run for 41st. Janet (105th), another one who is working hard and getting better, completed our vets team (still thankfully 3 counters) and Alison (223rd) ran as sweep marshal.

Leicester Running Shop LRRL Winter League: Stilton 7

With only 500 places available, the first race was just to get an entry! Thankfully, we were quick off the mark and managed to bag 27 places. The venue for this race is guite small and the race limit was increased from the originally proposed 400 to 500 on the basis that some clubs would base themselves in their club tents. When it came down to it, we were left in splendid isolation on a training pitch, down a muddy lane, behind the main venue. The two consolations were that we had a field to warm up on and virtually en-suite facilities as the extra loos were right next door (and almost queue-free). For some of us, it was a second stint in the tent in less than 20 hours, having huddled in it at the National XC in Nottingham the previous afternoon.

The Stilton course is a strange mix of the picturesque (Welby Church) and the postindustrial landscape around the site of the old mine. A two lap course, something of a novelty these days, it features four climbs with the final one at 6.5 miles particularly challenging when you've been pushing the pace. The race now starts and finishes bang outside the venue and spectators hardly have to leave the tea stall to get a great view of the unfolding race as the runners stream past at halfway.



Rachel: Strong powers of recuperation

Charlotte (21st) led the way with a PB performance but the real battle unfolded behind her, where Rachel (28th, showing her strength after running the National), Emma (29th and a PB) and Jackie (29th) were only separated by 5 seconds at the finish. Charlotte, Emma and Jackie also all placed in the vets top 10; enough to dominate the team rankings. We were missing Leah to illness but Janet (92nd) and Captain Barbara (118th) stepped up to ensure that the senior team scored well. Maria (141st) put in a great run for her first league race and Jeannette (157th) and Liz (179th) were glad to get their first races of 2017 safely under their belts.



Mark: Leading from the front as usual

Mark (24th) moved up closer to his customary finishing position and he was well backed up by the young guns; captain Ben (PB, 62nd) obviously benefitting from saving a bit at the National, James T (PB, 68th) and Sam (PB, 70th). Max (91st) also struck a blow for the younger generation with a PB before the first of the 'old men' got in on the act; Dale (100th) and Dave (105th). Steve W (148th), with one of his best runs since returning from injury, completed the eight. We needed one more for the vets team and didn't have long to wait with Marcus (162nd) underlining his improved form by bagging a PB and his first Bronze Standard.



Marcus: Getting quicker with every race

Steve P (175th) banked another Gold and he was followed by Roger (194th) and Steve B (PB, 203rd); both looking in good shape for the season. Dan (222nd) and Keith (237th) both came off the subs bench and Chris W (226th) made a good start to the campaign. Brian (256th) demonstrated the ultra-runner's powers of recovery by shaking off any aftereffects of his exertions at the National and putting in a good run.

Birthdays	
March	April
1st Max Barratt 10th Steve Martin 10th Kim Richardson 13th Jacqui Womersley 16th Richard Norton 18th Hitesh Pandya (V55) 22nd Sophie Noble	6th Tom Martin 6th Mike Munday 15th Steve Robinson 18th Jacqui Dean 23rd Neil Winkless 24th Dave Swan 26 th Jackie Brown 30th Jon Heap 30th Gurmit Singh