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# ◆ Redhill's Finest ◆

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*Redhill Road Runners*

*The Nationals*

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# Redhill Road Runners at the Nationals

## 1988 - 2022

What you are reading here is a record of RRR at the National Cross Country Championships. This was a project inspired by this site:  
<http://www.national.crosscountrychampionship.uk/index.html>

Most of what is here is just a record of results, which I have corrected from the original source where necessary, to name the correct runner. It is also not a complete history of Redhill at the Nationals as I have not included the few results from the Womens race.

There is some additional material, where I have it. Unfortunately I have no photographic records of the early days of our involvement with the greatest race in domestic cross country.

If you have no interest in reading this pdf, or just want to look up your own results, I would recommend Clive Greyson's article on page 20, which does a good job of describing the National from the point of view of a runner in the field.

Martyn McHale

The cover shows Mark Tomlinson, Mark Attenborough, Paul Newton and Terry Chambers at Alton Towers 2011.

## Newark 1988 9 miles

This was Redhill's first appearance at the Nationals. However due to the actions of one idiot, the club was disqualified for finishing ten runners, at a time when clubs were restricted to nine, as this headline in the Nottingham Evening post shows. A full transcript of the article is on the next page

# HYLAND IS RULED OUT

## Athletics



THE results from the Provisional Insurance National Cross Country Championships at Newark took three extra days to get to the runners because a computer spotted a human error in the finishing area.

But the facts still arrived too quickly for County Road Race League champion Eamonn Hyland.

He was first Nottinghamshire runner home, 160th of the 2,149 finishers, when the provisional results were printed within minutes of the nine-mile race finishing.

He was disqualified when the computer had erased human frailties. The reason: Eamonn's club, Redhill Road Runners, had committed the cardinal sin of fielding ten competitors when, under the rules, each club is allowed nine runners with six counting for team points.

Redhill's extra man ran only because it was initially thought one of their original nine was not on the start line. And he pleaded to be ignored when he finished.

But an ECCU spokesman said: "The rule has to be adhered to. If every club fielded a 'reserve, imagine the chaos."

So Hyland, who pipped county champion Derek Bul-

titute by just four seconds, has had his gallant run erased from the records.

The disqualification of Redhill's ten — and three other runners — did not prevent Newark taking the distinction of hosting the biggest 'Nationals' ever.

Nor did it detract from the tremendous achievement of Berry Hill Mansfield AC's under-17s. Told to treat their four-mile race as a training run for their own open meeting next Sunday, they finished eighth team — far and away the best result by a local club in years. Local results:—

Senior men (9 miles) 161, D Bul-tute 49:48, 170, M Hill 51:08, 271, T Parr 51:09, 348, I Hart 52:53, 372, S Elliott (all Notts AC) 52:06, 380, S Davies (Mansfield RC) 52:14, 429, D Jordan (Heanor) 52:46, 443, P Hall (Grantham) 52:56, 448, E Ironmonger (Notts) 52:58, 457, E Hall (Grantham) 53:02, 480, F Pidgeon (Notts) 53:05, 563, R Hays (Guthrie) 53:48, 598, J Wilsonham (Mansfield) 54:04, 613, S Bright (Notts) 54:11, 616, C Riley (Heanor) 54:12, 626, T Ford (Grantham) 54:15, 647, P McBain (Mansfield) 54:24, 672, P Handern (Newark) 54:33, 678, L Twomey (Erewash) 54:35, 690, T Wealdhall (Notts) 54:41, 785, S Bradshaw (Newark) 55:20, 802, J Kitching (Notts Univ) 55:28, 865, D Adair (Mansfield) 56:03, 890, J Boswell (Erewash) 56:16, 896, N Newton (Berry Hill) 56:18, 901, A Hill (Heanor) 56:30, 945, M Cooper (Newark) 56:35, 964, S Hornsby (Trent) 56:38, 967, C Kirk 56:44, 970, P Coyne 56:45.

1052, T Wright (all Newark) 57:08, 1030, R Mitchell (Grantham) 57:11, 1110, P Knox (Holme Pierrepont) 57:41, 1114, P Buckley (Heanor) 57:44, 1141, J Bostock (Heanor) 57:54, 1146, R Massey (Berry Hill) 57:57, 1167, S Mills (Newark) 58:08, 1182, A McBride (Mansfield) 58:16, 1228, I Fisher (Grantham) 58:33, 1230, D Fowler (Erewash) 58:36, 1258, N Fowler (Holme Pierrepont) 58:43, 1277, C

Unwin 57:39, 287, P Gebbett (Notts) 59:13, 323, A Parkwood (Notts Univ) 59:19, 344, N Savill (Grantham) 40:51, 347, W Simpson 41:03, 357, J Parr (Notts Notts) 42:03, 377, S Spence 43:16, 383, F Surtees (Notts Newark) 43:28.

● Alan Griffiths set a new record of 47min 48sec

in the over-50s' age group of the Lincoln one-third marathon, while his Notts AC colleague Richard Ironmonger was ninth overall and Linda Rushmere, running for Redhill Road Runners, was first lady.

## Great Gareth

### Canoeing



GARETH Marriott, from Mansfield, won the Canadian singles at an international canoe slalom competition which brought the International Canoe Exhibition at the Crystal Palace to a thrilling climax.

It capped a great time for locals: Andrew and Ian Clough from

Normanton-on-Soar won the Canadian doubles regional final — and student David Crosbee from Mansfield received his 'Master Class' medal for finishing seventh in the British kayak singles rankings last season. International results:

K1 men: 1, Russ Smith; 2, Mel Jones; 3, Richard Fox. Ladies K1: 1, Miriam Jersabini; 2, Jena Wilson; 3, Lyne Simpson. C1: 1, Gareth Marriott; 2, David Corka; 3, Paul Brice. C2: 1, Richardson Thompson; 2, Arrowsmith, Brin.

# Scotthol firing w

*The results from the Provincial Insurance NCCC at Newark took three extra days to get to the runners because a computer spotted a human error in the finishing area.*

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*He was the first Nottinghamshire runner home, 160th of the 2149 finishers, when the provisional results were printed within minutes of the nine mile race finishing.*

*He was disqualified when the computer had erased human frailties. The reason, Eamonn's club Redhill RR, had committed the cardinal sin of fielding ten competitors when, under the rules, each club is allowed nine runners with six counting for team points.*

*Redhill's extra man ran only because it was initially thought one of their original nine was not on the start line. And he pleaded to be ignored when he finished.*

*But an ECCU spokesman said: "The rule has to be adhered to, if every club fielded a reserve, imagine the chaos."*

*So Hyland, who pipped County Champion Derek Bulltitude by just four seconds, has had his gallant run erased from the records.*

*The disqualification of Redhill's ten - and three other runners - did not prevent Newark taking the distinction of hosting the biggest "National" ever.*



# REDHILL ROAD RUNNERS

REDHILL LEISURE CENTRE, REDHILL ROAD, ARNOLD. NOTTINGHAM.

Sec: Mrs. D. Warsop,  
54, Homefield Avenue,  
Arnold,  
Nottingham.  
NG5 8GA.

12th. March 1988.

Dear Martyn,

An extraordinary committee meeting was held on 7th. March 1988 to decide upon what action should be taken following our disqualification from the National at Newark.

It was decided that you will not be considered to represent the club in the National Cross Country Championships for 1989. This ban was considered necessary as a reprimand and to serve as a reminder to others that Redhill Road Runners will not be associated with rule breaking.

In barring you from competing for the club in just one race, the committee recognise that circumstances on that day regarding your position as reserve, may have contributed to your actions.

The committee see the matter as closed and apart from enforcing the ban do not intend to take any further action.

Yours sincerely,

David Warsop.



### Nonsuch Park 1989 9 miles

57	Eamonn Hyland	00:47:13
271	Eddie Tennant	00:50:03
375	Paul Warden	00:51:00
631	P Kettleborough	00:52:52
801	Stewart Lebelinski	00:53:58
803	Paul Rushmere	00:53:59
1086	L Temby	00:56:04
1214	John Davis	00:57:09
1429	G Pearce	00:59:02

1903 finishers

57th team	2938 points	six to count
204 teams finished		

Report from the Nottingham Evening Post  
*"RRR star Eamonn Hyland was first Nottinghamshire runner home in the National Cross Country Championship in Cheam in Surrey.*

*He joined the small band of Nottinghamshire athletes to get into the top 50 in the "Humans Grand National"*

## Roundhay Park 1990 9 miles

63	Eamonn Hyland	00:48:18
180	Paul Warden	00:50:13
493	Simon Clayton	00:53:02
815	Paul Rushmere	No times between 811 846 at 00:55:06 and 00:55:18
866	Colin Astill	00:55:23
893	Steff Lees	00:55:32
903	Stewart Lebelinski	00:55:36
1187	Brian Feeney	00:57:36
1709	Nigel Swinscoe	01:01:35

2195 finishers

65th team	3310 points	six to count
150 teams finished		

**Luton 1991 9 miles**

59	Eamonn Hyland	00:46:03
345	Eddie Tennant	00:49:09
529	Simon Clayton	00:50:24
796	Colin Astill	00:52:14
869	John Davis	00:52:37
991	Stewart Lebelinski	00:53:20
1504	Paul Newton	00:56:52

2170 finishers

70th team	3509 points	six to count
236 teams finished		

## Newark 1992 9 miles

333	Eddie Tennant	00:46:32
776	Nigel Lever	00:49:21
988	John Davis	00:50:33
1031	Paul Newton	00:50:45
1065	Noel McGuinness	00:50:56
1657	Martyn McHale	00:55:07
2084	Adam Wright	01:00:46

2197 finishers

132nd team	5850 points	six to count
246 teams finished		

## Parliament Hill 1993 9 miles

603	Stewart Lebelinski	00:51:21
763	John Davis	00:52:37
799	Mick Andrews	00:52:51
1000	Paul Newton	00:54:29
1289	Martyn McHale	00:56:46
1349	Dave Tetley	00:57:13
1436	Adam Wright	00:57:50
1948	Tony Garland	01:03:50
2102	Maurice Lever	01:09:38

2156 finishers

117th team	5803 points	six to count
238 teams finished		

Report from the Nottingham Evening Post

*"Stewart Lebelinski and John Wilkinson were the first men home from RRR and Mansfield RC respectively in the National Cross Country at Parliament Hill Fields.*

*Lebelinski was marking his first Nationals as a veteran. He was 601st in a time of 51 minutes 21 seconds..."*

### South Shields 1994 9 miles

311	Nigel Lever	00:49:14
368	Paul Newton	00:49:51
876	Nigel Swinscoe	00:54:20
880	Martyn McHale	00:54:23
1231	Geoff Addleton	00:58:19
1386	Steve Rubery	01:00:59
1479	Maurice Lever	01:04:02

1552 finishers

101st team	5052 points	six to count
165 teams finished		



# National Cross Country 1995

## Mens' Team

The following squad of fifteen has been entered for the above - these entries have had to be submitted before Friday 13th January.

Andy Tarry	Eamon Hyland
Paul Warden	Paul Newton
Des Gibbons	Nigel Swinscoe
Iain Hamilton	Wayne Thorpe
Alistair Stewart	Martin McHale
Dave Tetley	Graeme Parker
Eddie Tennant	John Davis
Alan Smith	

NEW - Due to injuries and need to talk to some individuals the final team will be announced on Wednesday 22nd February.

As I hope that all members of the squad will be going to Luton this should not create any problems.

Please inform Tony Garland if you are unable to run.

### **Wigmore Valley 1995 9miles**

30	Andy Tarry	00:46:34
34	Eamonn Hyland	00:46:31
174	Alan Smith	00:50:07
199	Paul Warden	00:50:27
238	Iain Hamilton	00:51:03
245	Eddie Tennant	00:51:08
299	Alistair Stewart	00:51:46
547	Paul Newton	00:54:24
558	Nigel Swinscoe	00:54:31

1790 finishers

**7th team**

**920 points**

**six to count**

184 teams finished

# Redhill take seventh spot in Nationals

ANDY TARRY led the Redhill men home in seventh place in the English National Cross-Country Championships at Wigmore Valley Park, Luton.

## Athletics

with the prizes in the newly created seven-mile race, half marathon and the 2 mile race at

George Coombes, who is preparing for the London Marathon, put in a pb time to finish in 1:47:02 in the Redford half marathon. Alan Godfrey finished in 1:42:27 and John Haytree shrugged off his cold to finish in a time of 1:

The finest moment in Redhill history, one which I was lucky to witness. I was also one of the supporters who shouted down the official presenting the trophy, who mistakenly believed we came from Redhill in Surrey.

Finishing in seventh is a remarkable achievement, one which we will never accomplish again, and one which a club of our size will always find hard to equal. The Nationals are dominated by the traditional clubs, with a much larger membership and greater resources. That a small club from the suburbs from Nottingham managed to finish in the top ten is possibly the greatest untold story of the Nationals.

Redhill Road Runners improved from 101st last year to seventh under the guidance of team manager Tony Garland and cross country secretary Pete Hamilton, who put the success down to "team-work — getting the lads out together."

They went home with what they came for — the Minor Club Trophy, presented to the club who has not finished in the first 30 during the past five years.

#### Men

1, Blackheath Harriers, 6, 9, 11, 27, 28, 39, (50, 161, 200) 120pts; 2, Bingley Harriers & AC, 7, 15, 19, 29, 36, 53, (88, 130, 372) 159pts; 3, Morpeth Harriers & AC, 20, 26, 47, 48, 51, 54, (91, 172, 210) 246pts; 4, Tipton Harriers AC, 5, 17, 37, 97, 105, 113, (122, 169, 253) 374pts; 5, Omega Racing Club, 3, 13, 73, 129, 156, 201, 575pts; 6, Salford Harriers & AC, 38, 64, 114, 132, 142, 249, 739pts; 7, Redhill RR, 30, 34, 174, 199, 238, 245, (299, 547, 558) 920pts; 8, Aldershot, Farnham & District, 32, 57, 68, 261, 273, 307, (359, 413) 998pts; 9, Herne Hill Harriers, 79, 84, 167, 239, 257, 260, (289, 447) 1086pts; 10, Stockport Harriers & AC, 102, 151, 189, 190, 205, 262, (404, 948, 1058) 1099pts; 11, Highgate Harriers, 75, 106, 207, 235, 254, 259, (337, 380, 662) 1136pts; 12, Birchfield Harriers, 33, 67, 243, 291, 304, 336, (346, 411, 468) 1274pts; 13, Longwood Harriers AC, 2, 96, 202, 281, 320, 376, (540, 840, 903) 1277pts; 14, Medway AC, 14, 116, 136, 280, 340, 425, (487, 575, 1150) 1311pts; 15, Notts AC, 78, 146, 196, 234, 348, 385, (472, 621, 997) 1387pts; 16, Chelmsford AC, 69, 80, 86, 139, 230, 790.

**Extracts from the race report  
and results from Athletics  
Weekly.**

# A MAGNIFICENT SEVENTH

Date: Saturday 11th March 1995

Venue: Wigmore Valley Park, Luton

Event: National Cross Country Championships

Redhill's greatest achievement to date - 7th Team out of 330+

Winners of the 'Michelin Trophy'

Thanks to:-	Andy Tarry	30th	46m 34s
	Eamon Hyland	34th	46m 51s
	Alan Smith	174th	50m 07s
	Paul Warden	199th	50m 27s
	Iain Hamilton	238th	51m 03s
	Eddie Tennant	245th	51m 08s
	Alistair Stewart	299th	51m 46s
	Paul Newton	547th	54m 24s
	Nigel Swinscoe	558th	54m 31s

Also	Martin Mchale
	John Davis

*Tony Garland*

**Newark 1996 9 miles**

54	Andy Tarry	00:43:09
72	Eamonn Hyland	00:43:27
118	Alan Smith	00:44:16
347	Paul Newton	00:47:04
528	Martin Riley	00:48:44
781	Martyn McHale	00:50:48
785	Paul Warden	00:50:50
844	Arthur Hancock	00:51:17
866	Paul Tilley	00:51:32
885	Eddie Tennant	00:51:38
1448	Wade Lowther	00:56:30
1457	Clive Greyson	00:56:40
1542	Andy Barks	00:57:44
1599	Bob Hayes	00:58:30
1600	Pat McGovern	00:58:31

1954 finishers

32nd	1900 points	six to count
133 teams finished		
29th	5292 points	nine to count
56 teams finished		

Report from the Nottingham Evening Post

*"Redhill Road Runners were 32nd overall after Andy Tarry took 54th place and Eamonn Hyland claimed 72nd position. Further down the field there were promising runs from Wade Lowther and Andrew Barks."*

This was first race after the rule change that had restricted each club to only nine runners.

**Newark 1999 7.5miles 12km**

169	Andy Wetherill	00:43:30
289	Mark Yates	00:45:20
383	Paul Newton	00:46:23
527	Nigel Cobb	00:47:49
591	Paul Mellors	00:48:31
593	Martyn McHale	00:48:32
758	Ray Gayne	00:50:24
1013	Clive Greyson	00:53:14
1016	Kevin Richards	00:53:16
1173	Pat McGovern	00:55:20
1359	Bob Hayes	00:58:55

1554 finishers

38th team	2528 points	six to count
133 teams finished		
29th team	5292 point	nine to count
56 teams finished		

1999 was the first National to be run over 12k instead of the traditional 9 miles.

## **A View From the Nationals**

### **Cive Greyson from the April 1999 Club newsletter.**

“Bloomin heck!” said Martyn as we drove past The White Hart on the way to Newark for the Nationals, “We are going to have to go back as I’ve forgotten my spikes” So a quick U-turn and back to Deer Park Drive to collect Martyn’s spikes.

We arrive at Newark Showground and after the tent has been erected, Redhill runners appear from every direction. (Why does this always happen? Do people hide behind trees and bushes? “We can’t go yet lads they haven’t got the tent up”)



The next couple of hours are spent browsing the trade stalls, buying tee shirts and getting ready for our race. 3:00 O'clock approaches and after a quick check with Andy Wetherill that he is aware the start is 3:05 (mind you even if he gave me a 10 minute head start he would still beat me) we make our way to the starting pens. Only we can't find our allocated starting pens, oh well never mind, we won't actually effect the finishing positions at the sharp end.

3:02 we walk forward to the starting line and 3 minutes later we are off. The start of the Nationals must be the most unique start in running as you have 1500 plus runners all streaming across open countryside. The only thing I can compare it to is the scene from Braveheart where the Scot's go racing across muddy fields into battle and destiny as yet unknown! (And hopefully Mike Robinson from Notts won't show me his bottom this time, unlike Wollaton Park XC a few Saturdays ago!)

The going at the start is soft to good and then we turn left and destiny has a nice ploughed field for us. This is where the true cross country runner is separated from the average club runner, as some runners just appear to float over the mud whereas people like me get stuck trying to find the best path forward.

We run over farmers fields, up hills, down dales, over sand, round the duck pond, past the runner who is desperately trying to run against the flow of traffic because he has lost his shoe in the glutinous mud, and then we do it all again for the second time. At the top of the hill a familiar voice shouts "Come on Clive, get a move on" – it's Dave Pearson who used to be our Club Coach a few years ago.

Kevin Richards is a few meters ahead of me, so I put in an effort and close up on him and then I get stuck in the mud again and Kevin pulls away. Now's the time when I have got to look good because I am coming up to the area where the Redhill marshals will be. Shoulders back, lengthen the stride, try to look as if I am coasting as I run past the half dozen Redhill marshals. "Redhill runner just in front of you" shouts Linda in encouragement. Round the corner and I can relax a bit now, only about a mile to go, but hold on a minute Kevin is only a few metres away, I run alongside him and offer some encouragement.

This spurs Kevin on and leaves me in his muddy wake again. At this part of the course I am sure that I could walk faster than I am running, as my legs won't go in a straight line over this muddy field. This is a comment shared by several runners at the after race discussion.

Only about 350 metres to go and the worst of the mud is behind me. I make one last effort to close in on Kevin as I try to sneak up on his blind sid. I offer no words of encouragement this time as personal pride is at stake. Kevin has seen me though and comes alongside me, "Let's see how many of these we can take" he says. He pushes it, I push it, we rush past desperately tired runners. Legs aching, lungs rasping, arms pumping, racing for the line. "Just pretend it's a track session Clive, and go for the line" I think to myself. With a Colin Jackson like lean I finish in front of Kevin and my own personal pride is retained. Ok, so I only finished in 1250<sup>th</sup> place (or whatever), but at least I overtook about 25 runners in the last 300 metres, and I beat the nearest local competitor!

As we sit in the car park exit queue for 30 minutes with the mud slowly congealing on our legs, we hear Forest have actually won a game (So they've got some pride as well). The day is followed by an evening of beers, bowling and curry amiably organised by our Social Committee. A good night to round off a very pleasant day.

### **Parliament Hill 2003 12km**

336	Paul Newton	00:51:25
756	Clive Greyson	00:58:43
874	Bruce Olpin	01:00:56

1258 finishers

### **Leeds Temple Newsom 2004 12km**

345	Mark Yates	00:50:13
386	Leigh Stubbs	00:50:43
873	Clive Greyson	00:57:59
1365	Andy Barks	01:15:07

1399 finishers

**Cofton Park 2005 12km**

310	Mark Yates	00:45:18
513	Martyn McHale	00:47:53
535	Paul Newton	00:48:05
793	Pete Gillespie	00:51:33
828	Mark Attenborough	00:51:58
850	Clive Greyson	00:52:17
1231	Andy Barks	01:01:15

1316 finishers

62nd team                      3829 points                      six to count

102 teams finished

**Parliament Fields 2006 12km**

218	Leigh Stubbs	00:45:54
390	Mark Yates	00:48:59
580	Paul Newton	00:52:24
644	Nigel Cobb	00:53:14
811	Bruce Olpin	00:56:06
894	Clive Greyson	00:57:36
904	Bill Johnson	00:57:54
1145	John Truscott	01:03:37

1288 finishers

57th team                      3525 points                      six to count

100 teams finished

**Sunderland 2007 12km**

270	Mark Yates	00:45:40
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916 finishers



### Parliament Fields 2009 12km

361	Paul Newton	00:47:52
431	Ben Humphries	00:48:51
546	<i>Tim Raynor</i>	00:50:28
817	Mark Attenborough	00:54:26
1074	Clive Greyson	00:58:45
1105	Ian Abbott	00:59:17
1249	Terry Chambers	01:02:30 (not in picture)

1455 finishers

84th team                      5037 points                      six to count  
112 teams finished

Report from the club newsletter.

"This years race took place at Parliament Hill, the team finished 84th out of 112 teams, 1455 runners completed the course.

Second claim member Tim ran for an obscure north Notts club.

Due to a pre race emergency, Terry Chambers has a used copy of the London A-Z ,minus pages 59 to 73, for sale."

## Terry's Tale

### Terry Chambers on the 2009 Nationals

I was determined to be thoroughly prepared in mind and body for the Nationals. Therefore I travelled to London on the Thursday and spent a day at Sandown Races, losing both lots of money and my sanity. My wife and I stayed at a hotel in Watford which had a carvery next door selling lots of meats and real ales. However, I did not want to overindulge and so restricted myself to four pints and only three meats.

The next morning I entered the breakfast lounge and was pleased to see that certain items had a red code which signified high energy. Being a Yorkshireman I did feel it was important to get my money's worth but I didn't want to jeopardise my training schedule. As a result I limited myself to four sausages, three rashers, three black puddings and a mere three slices of fried bread. After breakfast we entered the M25 on the way to Enfield to pick my daughter up. Unfortunately things started to go wrong when I saw a sign for Luton M1 10 miles. Why is it that women are incapable of reading maps? Anyhow I remained fairly calm but my stress levels were beginning to rise. This was not made any better when I could not get a spot in Cockfosters tube station car park. However, after a two mile walk and three tube changes, I arrived at Belsize Park Station, only 1 and half miles from Parliament Hill.

By this time, 45 minutes before the off, I was getting very nervous and needed to stop off at a pub toilet. I sheepishly walked through the pub and plonked myself down in one of the cubicles. At which point I received a call from Clive Greyson asking my whereabouts and pointing out the rest of the lads were on their third warm up lap. My heart was pumping and I had little trouble in relieving myself. However, on looking up I discovered that there was no toilet paper and had to shuffle next door. Lo and behold none there either. I was close to rears, particularly as the fried bread and black pudding had rendered me somewhat loose. The only thing I could think of was a London A-Z borrowed from my daughters friend. Unfortunately it was at the bottom of my rucksack, full of clothes and shoes for the night out on the town,(and spikes!).

I arrived at the course which resembled a First World War battlefield, and discovered that my spikes had been left in the bog! Needless to say I went over on my ankle and had to limp round. Having said that, the camaraderie and friendship of the other guys was truly fantastic. Despite being made to hobble four miles to their hotel, with Leigh Stubbs deliberately taking me up and down 400 flights of stairs, I am indebted to Mark Attenborough who generously let me use his shower facilities. Indeed I do feel a little guilty about nicking his shower gel, soap and sachets of coffee. A truly memorable event, I now know what it really means to belong to Redhill Road Runners.

## Clives Tale

The sense of anticipation as you make your way to the start pens, soon turns to trepidation as the marshals call the runners forward.

A cold, hard silence descends and it is reminiscent of the last scene from Blackadder Goes Forth where they are waiting for the call to go over the top to face almost certain death. There is a palpable sense that "This is it. No way out now"

The gun goes and a mad rush forward. A sea of arms and legs jostling for position. Even if I wanted to run faster I could not as I have a wall of human flesh blocking the way. If I had tried to run any slower, I would have been swept along by the tidal wave of humanity constantly pushing forward. I swear if I had stopped running I would have still been carried along at the same pace by the mass momentum of runners.

No chance to see where my feet are landing, just keep moving forward and hope I don't trip. No way can you see where the race is leading as all that it is possible to see is the mass of sweaty bodies.

Anyone who falls over doesn't stand a chance as 1500 runners stampede over them. I made the mistake of starting on the far right and the race bends to the far right after the initial burst up hill. As I get squeezed into the corner, I worry about being impaled on one of the course stakes.



Broken down tape, am I running on the right side of the tape? I don't know, just follow the runners in front. Oops, I am on the wrong side and have to duck under the tape to get back on course.

As we start the second lap the runners are more spread out but they are trying desperately to find more secure ground and the runners split into two lines either side of the mud in the middle. Those not wearing spikes are slipping and sliding everywhere, good job I've got 9mm spikes in. Perhaps six inch nails might have been better though!

Pity poor Terry Chambers who lost his spikes in the loo on the way to the course. He's running around in trail shoes and we later find out he's turned his ankle and hobbling round the course to make sure we finish a team.

The finish line approaches, at long last, I've made it just under the hour for 12k. But I've finished and we have finished a team—just beating Newark and in front of Mansfield. The sense of elation after finishing a race of this magnitude and scale is tremendous. Time for a berr, and later scrape the mud off in the hotel shower. It's like having a free leg wax ladies! Terry then discovers that not only has he lost his spikes, but he's lost his clean underwear and socks as well. Cue howls of laughter. Poor Terry, injured, limping and without clean underwear!

A beer tastes better after such a hard race and it tasted good that night. Would I do it again? Bring on Roundhay Park, Leeds 2010.

**Roundhay Park 2010 12km**

664	Paul Newton	00:51:08
718	Tony Lowe	00:51:53
739	Martyn McHale	00:52:16
811	Tim Metcalfe	00:53:12
848	Mark Attenborough	00:53:41
1113	Terry Chambers	00:58:29
1119	Clive Greyson	00:58:36

1428 finishers

80th team                      4893 points                      six to count  
107 teams finished

**Is time up on Hee Haw Greyson?****Terry Chambers on the 2010 Nationals**

If last year's National XC course at Parliament Hill resembled the Somme, Roundhay Park was at least Passchendaele.

Attenborough had checked out the local boozers for decent beer and food, and Martyn had been prised away from his Bible readings. We approached Roundhay Park via the summit of Hill 60, a peak which had to be climbed on three occasions during the race.

The start was a complete quagmire, but a great feeling as 1600 runners sludged their way up the hill. Although it was not quite as tortuous as Parliament Hill, it certainly examined the mental and physical state of the runners.

Which leads me on to one of the most admired and talented runners of Redhill's finest. Just what has happened to Clive? His mind still seems to be on the ski slopes or the cricket squares of South Africa. I must admit I felt very guilty, having stalked the said "legend" for two laps, before having to pass him on the last Hill 60, when my cover was exposed by screaming fans. Surely Clive has now hit rock bottom when an old fart like myself shows him a clean (well quite muddy) pair of heels. Such a result can have a devastating effect on a runner's mind. (Think back to Tommo's experience at Berry Hill, another notable scalp!) No doubt I fully expect Clive to take up the gauntlet and come roaring back.

All Redhill Runners, Newton, Lowe, McHale, Metcalfe, Attenborough, Greyson and myself, performed manfully, (unlike Attenborough's shower in the hotel). It must be noted that Clive came storming back in the bars at night, exceeding his previous best beer quota. A truly memorable day and night without too many mishaps, but many amusing moments....

### **Alton Towers 2011 10km**

593	Paul Newton	00:48:56
701	Martyn McHale	00:50:33
802	Mark Attenborough	00:52:31
960	Terry Chambers	00:55:44
1028	Clive Greyson	00:57:40
1113	Mark Tomlinson	01:00:21

1302 finished

79th team                      5197 points              six to count  
95 teams finished

This race was not only the hardest National I've ever run, it's the hardest race I have ever run. In my memory it was just mud every step of the way. For safety reasons, the race was reduced to 10k. To give some idea of the conditions, the first local runner to finish was Bruce Raeside of Notts AC in 6th place in a time of 36:24, the same year he won a 10K road race in 30:16.

Clive Greyson and Mark Tomlinson tackle one of the easier parts of the course on the next page.



## **Terry Chambers view of the Alton Towers National from the Redhill Newsletter.**

Well here we go again...as I have always stated it's all about peaking at the right time. Its no use being an expert at foreplay if you don't follow it up with a bang.

The biggest day in the racing calendar, the National Cross-Country champs, duly arrived on Saturday 19 February. The venue was Alton Towers and two of our runners would have preferred a ride on the "Tea-cups" than what they were about to face. The conditions were ideal, a total mud bath with not a blade of grass in sight. It was interesting to note that 10 miles down the road Uttoxeter races had been abandoned due to the torrential rain! Too bad for the "four-leggeds" but fine for us "two-leggeds"! Still it is always a test for "Real Men". Having said that it was hardly reassuring that a fleet of ambulances were taking early casualties in the opposite direction to Derby Infirmary! The warm up consisted of sloshing your way to the mobile loos 50 yards away from the changing tent. Tommo was clearly feeling nervous and certainly appeared somewhat "chicken-like" covered head to foot in cooking foil. Meanwhile Clive was neatly folding up his spare clothes, Newts moaning about his injury, McHale sipping from his hip flask and Mark Attenborough was gutted that the first hill and 2K had been taken out of the race. As he quite rightly pointed out the obvious pile-up would have got rid of several runners on the first lap.

The start of the race is always something to behold...over a 1000 runners squelching their way through what always resembles a First World War battlefield. The conditions were so bad that your eyes were permanently fixed to the ground. Indeed, the only way I knew I had passed Tommo was when I heard a shout, "Well done Terry old chap. Keep it up." (Due to censorship laws the last statement has been changed somewhat)

Once again, on the second lap, I found myself in close proximity to that racing legend...Clive Greyson. Surely not, I thought, I cannot possibly be overtaking one of the most respected runners of RRR. I thought long and hard about this...the poor man will be destroyed if a perennial (by the way Stubbsy this word means shit) jogger like myself goes past. Well it had to happen. However, it was refreshing to see that Clive was in the best of spirits when he crossed the finish line and took defeat with such dignity. I heard later that Tommo finished too. (I was back home in the Ernehale at the time). By the way, for the record, Newton, McHale and Attenborough finished in front of me. But hey...two scalps in one day! What more could I ask for. Here is to next year!

### **Parliament Hill 2012 12k**

163	Leigh Stubbs	00:40:53
628	Paul Newton	00:46:55
953	Clive Greyson	00:50:52
1237	Martyn McHale	00:54:47

1689 finishers

### **Sunderland 2013 12k**

739	Martyn McHale	01:01:17
814	Mark Attenborough	01:01:30
868	Clive Greyson	01:01:58
903	Ian Beckingham	01:06:22

1085 finishers



**Wollaton 2014 12km**

266	Matt Stratford	00:42:16
425	Andy Wetherill	00:44:13
550	Ian Hales	00:45:51
653	Mark Davis	00:46:52
670	Simon Nash	00:47:03
699	Tony Lowe	00:47:22
826	Nigel Lever	00:48:49
915	Ian Beckingham	00:49:51
1062	Stan Pascoe	00:51:43
1106	Francesco Lari	00:52:23
1135	Peter Clayton	00:52:43
1158	Martyn McHale	00:53:03
1175	Ian Abbott	00:53:21
1211	Mark Attenborough	00:53:58
1272	Pete Gillespie	00:55:16
1370	Mark Tomlinson	00:56:56
1398	Terry Chambers	00:57:32
1420	Clive Greyson	00:57:58
1483	Paul Stacey	00:59:42
1535	Steve Geldred	01:01:27
1628	Andy Barks	01:09:22

1657 finishers

49th team	3263 points	six to count
127 teams finished		
29th team	6066 points	nine to count
56 teams finished		

Next page , Terry Chambers at Wollaton.



### Parliament Hill 2015 12k

1032	Pete McNally	00:55:03
1101	Paul Newton	00:55:52
1707	Ian Abbott	01:04:49
1866	Clive Greyson	01:09:56

2007 finishers



### Donnington Park 2016 12k

580	Paul Newton	00:54:48
703	Leigh Stubbs	00:56:25
730	Mark Davis	00:56:51
809	Pete McNally	00:57:42
862	Nigel Lever	00:58:22
952	Karl Glendenning	00:59:32
1112	Michael Stephenson	01:02:00
1163	Francesco Lari	01:02:47
1412	Clive Greyson	01:07:25
1521	Mike Drury	01:10:52
1552	Martyn McHale	01:12:38
1641	Michael Horn	01:17:31 (pictured above)

1730 finishers

69th team	4636 points	six to count
123 teams finished		
41st team	8323 points	nine to count
57 teams finished		

**Wollaton Park 2017 12k**

641	Ian Hales	00:50:53
890	Paul Newton	00:53:39
1022	Richard Morris	00:55:27
1027	Simon Nash	00:55:29
1044	Peter McNally	00:55:46
1067	Ashley Illingsworth	00:56:11
1225	Alastair Reilly	00:58:34
1300	Mark Attenborough	00:59:50
1302	Francesco Lari	00:59:50
1337	Christopher Ward	01:00:25
1338	Paul Gibson	01:00:26
1425	Paul Stacey	01:01:51
1430	Sidney Periera	01:01:57
1509	Andy Parsons	01:03:59
1538	Martyn McHale	01:04:40
1544	Clive Greyson	01:04:55
1565	Richard Butterworth	01:05:39
1603	Terry Chambers	01:07:32
1640	Jonathan Greentree	01:09:02
1717	Clive Hayward	01:13:48

1763 finishers

96th team	5691 points	six to count
131 teams finished		
51st team	9518 points	nine to count
60 teams finished		



### Parliament Hill 2018 12k

2020	Richard Morris	01:07:02
2150	Clive Greyson	01:10:19
2176	Mark Salter	01:12:02
2288	Mark Webster	01:19:26

2328 finishers

### Harewood Hall Leeds 2019 12k

1205	Paul Newton	00:51:38
1519	Michael Stephenson	00:55:10
1726	Martyn McHale	00:58:47 (pictured above)
1943	Mark Salter	01:07:52
1987	Michael Horn	01:14:37

2008 finishers

**Wollaton Park 2020 12k**

586	Ian Hales	00:56:00
774	Mark Davis	00:59:04
908	Ben Abbott	01:00:59
940	Martin Lee	01:01:32
953	Simon Nash	01:01:41
1076	Paul Newton	01:03:48
1138	Michael Stephenson	01:04:56
1277	Simon Holmes	01:07:21
1278	Chris Ward	01:07:22
1300	Paul Davies	01:07:49
1326	Tony Shenton	01:08:27
1328	Tim Raynor	01:08:28
1378	Kevin Dickinson	01:09:54
1387	Ian Beckingham	01:10:18
1535	Raymond Poynter	01:15:07
1552	Martyn McHale	01:16:28
1607	Clive Greyson	01:19:27
1671	Paul Gibson	01:25:07
1687	Michael Horn	01:28:19

1716 finishers

78th team	5260 points	six to count
115 teams finished		
48th team	8968 points	nine to count
59 teams finished		



30	Andy Tarry	1995
34	Eamonn Hyland	1995
54	Andy Tarry	1996
57	Eamonn Hyland	1989
59	Eamonn Hyland	1991
63	Eamonn Hyland	1990
72	Eamonn Hyland	1996
118	Alan Smith	1996
163	Leigh Stubbs	2012
169	Andy Wetherill	1999
174	Alan Smith	1995
180	Paul Warden	1990
199	Paul Warden	1995
238	Iain Hamilton	1995
245	Eddie Tennant	1995

## Parliament Hill 2022 12k

888	Pete McNally	00:58:02
1093	Mark Davis	01:00:42
1338`	Leigh Stubbs	01:04:17
1638	Tim Raynor	01:09:46
1767	Paul Newton	01:12:08
1813	Dave Walsh	01:13:21
1821	Ray Poynter	01:13:39
1924	Michael Stephenson	01:17:24
2005	Stuart Bell	01:22:40

2087 finishers

121st team	8537 points	six to count
132 teams finished		





Pete McNally and Mark Attenborough Wollaton 2017