

# CHESHIRE COUNTY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

May 2003

## **Congratulations!**

Two Cheshire Junior athletes, Karri Hawitt (Warrington AC) and Andy Ellis (Vale Royal AC) have represented England in Fell Running. Both competed in the Under 18 race in Knockdhu Classic Fell Race in Co Antrim, Northern Ireland on April 26<sup>th</sup>, with Andy finishing 11<sup>th</sup> overall (4<sup>th</sup> English runner), while Karri won the ladies section of the race. Karri has already run for Great Britain in the World Junior Fell Running championships and hopes to do so again later this year when they are held in Alaska.

## **Indoor Successes for Cheshire Athletes - 2.**

One correction and an addition to the information in last month's Newsletter.

Louise Burton (Macclesfield) won the Under 15 Girls North of England shot put (and was not third as printed). Hayley Jones of Crewe and Nantwich won both the Under 15 Girls 60 metres and 200 metres events in the same championships.

My apologies for mistakes and missing Hayley's performances (*thanks to Bob Lynch and Shaun McGrath for alerting me*).

## **Cheshire Track & Field Championships.**

### **Macclesfield, 10 and 11 May**

A very good weekend, apart from the weather on Saturday and towards the end of Sunday afternoon and an intermittent public address system on the Saturday.

The number of entrants was up to that for the previous year, as were also the total number of event entries. From a limited viewing, due to judging and other duties, I did catch site of some very competitive middle distance races, particularly for the youngsters - hope for the future. Our thanks to all those who in any way helped at the Championships and in particular our Championship Secretaries : John and Carol Ashton. The full results are on the Cheshire County AA web site at : [www.cheshireaa.com](http://www.cheshireaa.com).

Cheshire has its largest number of entrants in the Senior Inter-county Championships at Bedford (May 25/26) for a number of years. Disappointingly there are no North of England Inter-county Championships this year, which normally provides representative competition for all age groups, particularly giving many younger athletes their first taste of team competition at a higher level. The NoEAA have recognised the importance of this meeting and will be asking County representatives to attend a meeting in October to discuss.

## **Cheshire Road Running Grand Prix.**

With 5 of the 6 events chosen for the Grand Prix series for 2003 now completed, Adrian Thiemicke's report sent to all Cheshire clubs registered for the series shows clear team leaders in both the Mens and Ladies sections. In fact Vale Royal ladies have won the ladies competition without having to take part in the final race - Birchwood 10K on August 17<sup>th</sup>, which also doubles up as the Cheshire 10K championships (for individuals). Hopefully Vale Royal ladies will support the event. The mens table is headed by Wilmslow RC from Vale Royal.

Although Adrian predicts Wilmslow will win, it does depend on the last race.

The prize for both winning teams is a subsidised trip to compete against winning teams from other counties in the Robin Hood ½ marathon at Nottingham in September. This Grand Prix series has been initiated by the UK Athletics Endurance Policy & Support Team. Cheshire is the only Northern County taking part thanks to Adrian keeping his eyes and ears on what is going on - UKA do not seem very good at advertising it. Cheshire County AA have agreed to purchase a perpetual trophy for the winning mens and ladies team in the Cheshire event to hold for one year. Adrian is requesting ideas, comments, events for next year's grand prix series assuming the Cheshire clubs want one. Observations suggest that most of the Cheshire clubs taking part have treated it seriously - Wilmslow men in particular! Even if UKA do not put it on again next year, I feel that it is a worthwhile exercise and thanks to Adrian Thiemicke for all of the results and co-ordination and participating race organisers for making it successful. Adrian can be contacted on : [roadrunning@cheshireaa.com](mailto:roadrunning@cheshireaa.com).

A reminder that a :

## **Health & Safety Workshop for Track and Field.**

will be held at Victoria Park, Warrington on Wednesday, 4 June commencing at 7pm. This is predominantly for Track and Field Officials as they are required to attend one before the end of 2003. UKA qualified coaches are also welcome as we understand that they will eventually have to attend a course. Also Track Facility staff are welcome.

Persons interested MUST register well beforehand (by 30 May!!) to ensure we get sufficient handouts from UK Athletics. Notify John Driscoll by phone (0151 339 5341) or by e-mail (see end of Newsletter). This is an approved UK Athletics course, presented by UKA trained persons.

## **Coaching Courses :**

### **Level 1 :**

05/07/03 at Manchester (Lostock High School)  
21/09/03 at St Helens  
15/11/03 at Sportscity, Manchester  
17/01/04 in North Manchester

### **Children in Athletics :**

28/09/03 at Warrington (Victoria Park)  
16/11/03 at Sportscity (Manchester)  
18/01/04 in North Manchester

### **Level 2 (Core) :**

13/14 September at St Helens  
06/07 December at Sportscity (Manchester)  
21/22 February 04 at Sportscity (Manchester)

### **Level 2 (Event Specific) :**

10/11 Jan 04 at St Helens  
24/25 April 04 at Sportscity (Manchester)  
(carried on over page)

### **Fitness in Running and Walking :**

19.07.3 at Macclesfield.

In all cases contact Tony Airnes for an application form on 01253 358168 or [tairnes@ukathletics.org.uk](mailto:tairnes@ukathletics.org.uk). It is essential to book as early as possible as courses will be cancelled if there are insufficient bookings. *That is, do not leave it to the last moment as though you were entering an athletics event!!*

### **Cheshire Championships.**

Forthcoming Cheshire Championships are :

**Track Relays** at Warrington on Sunday 13 July - entry forms will be with clubs shortly.

**10K Road Running** at Birchwood, nr Warrington on Sunday 17 August - entry forms are out (Spectrum Striders), individual self entry.

**Junior Multi-Events** at Macclesfield on Sunday 14 September.

Probable **Fell Running** at Cilcain near Mold (North Wales) on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November - details later.

**Cross Country Championships** (SATURDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2004) are being planned for the Knights Grange sports facility, Winsford with the assistance of Vale Royal AC and Vale Royal BC. Details later, **but please note the proposed day.**

**Cheshire Cross Country League** : following their AGM on May 12, dates have been set for the 3 League meetings :

December 28<sup>th</sup> at Frodsham

February 15<sup>th</sup> 2004, venue to be confirmed

March 14<sup>th</sup> at Stockport.

The secretary for the League remains as Hamish Thomson.

The **Cheshire Cross Country League** and the **Cheshire Track and Field League** are NOT part of the Cheshire County AA organisation, as is thought by some. They are stand alone, self-contained Leagues, which originated in Cheshire at least 25 years ago to provide inter-club competition for all ages, and in particular to encourage the smaller clubs and young athletes to take part in competition.

### **Facilities (Tracks).**

A new synthetic surfaced track will be added to the County shortly. After a four year application process, a Lottery Grant of 65% of the total cost has been awarded for a new track at the Stanney Oaks Leisure Centre in Ellesmere Port - not far from the Cheshire Oaks Outlet Village. The rest of the money has been put together by the partners in the scheme - Ellesmere Port & Neston BC, Cheshire CC, Stanney High School and West Cheshire AC. Construction will commence very soon.

### **Information (from AAA of England) :**

All Clubs and Associations should have received recently two publications from AAA of E, one relating to Development the other to the evolution of an UKA/AAA "Athletics Welfare Policy". Both are important documents and advisedly should be noted by all Clubs. the Development Bulletin indicates that potentially significant changes could take place in the Development Network which was established 3 years ago with the introduction of Regional Development Co-ordinators co-funded by Sport England, AAA of England and the North of England AA.

Some of you will already know that our Regional Development Co-ordinator, Alison Wyeth, is moving on to become the Head of Development for the Regional Co-ordinators, following the move of Loretta Sollars to become a Regional Director for Sport England. Job adverts to replace Alison for the next 15 months have been sent to all Clubs.

I know all those who have met and involved Alison in their club activities will miss her tremendous contribution to all aspects of athletics development, in particular helping us through the minefield of many new initiatives and the filling in of forms to obtain grants. We wish Alison success in her new post and no doubt we will still have contact from her in the future.

### **New Club Secretaries :**

**Macclesfield H&AC** : Mrs Lyndsey Wright, 9 Oakwood Drive, Prestbury, Cheshire SK10 4HG (Tel : 01625 828210; e-mail : [mark.wright70@ntlworld.com](mailto:mark.wright70@ntlworld.com))

**West Cheshire AC : acting secretary** : Dan Gilroy, 56 Hallfields Road, Tarvin, Chester CH3 8ET (Tel : 01829 740513).

**New club name** : with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> May this year Rivacre Runners and Joggers, an Ellesmere Port based club, has changed its name to **Ellesmere Port Runners**. This change had previously been approved by the Cheshire County AA and NoEAA. They will continue to wear their orange vests.

Please ensure the County Secretary is informed immediately there is a change of Secretary in your Club, League or Association.

### **Communications - your HELP, we need it!**

Repeating our plea in the March Newsletter, we are currently struggling to build up e-mail contacts for each Cheshire club, League and Association so that we can rapidly, effectively keep you informed at lower cost to the Association.

At present we have e-mail contacts for less than half of the Cheshire clubs, and so far there has been absolutely no response to our plea from those clubs who receive this by post.

We would ask those who do receive the Newsletter electronically to "send" it on to their contacts in their club and/or put a paper copy on your Club notice board.

**Next County committee meetings : 25 June and 23 July at the Community Centre, Fluin Lane, Frodsham at 7:30pm - hopefully we will see some new faces at them.**

*We aim to produce the Newsletter on an approximately monthly basis - after committee meetings. If you have anything which you would like to see in the Newsletter, or if you would like an e-mailed copy, please contact the Editor - John Driscoll (0151 339 5341 or, preferably, [jld@sunnyfield.co.uk](mailto:jld@sunnyfield.co.uk)).*

*Any views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Cheshire County AA.*