

Sport

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The latest sports news from Croydon and Sutton

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ATHLETICS

Top five finish for young Harriers shows potential

ALMOST 20 Croydon Harriers were in action at the Balfour Beatty London Youth Games at Parliament Hill writes *Matthew Kiernan*.

The 19-strong contingent played a key role in helping the Borough team finish fifth overall out of the 30 competing boroughs.

Charlotte Cavanagh enjoyed the best result of the morning, finishing 13th in 12 minutes 35 seconds in the 3000m race to lead home the Croydon team, with Philippa Layburn (44th, 14.02) also making the scoring trio as the third Borough finisher.

They helped Croydon to sixth overall.

In the U13 girls category, Josie Kavanagh (15th, 8.04) enjoyed an excellent outing and was backed up by Ellie McCormack (20th, 8.13).

After a late withdrawal by Peter Chambers due to illness, Patrick Lucas (23rd, 16.56) was the club's sole representative in the 4.5km U17s race.

Charlie Brackenborough (21st, 7.08) was the highlight in the U13 boys category, and Emily Howe (73rd, 9.00) led the Harriers challenge in the U15 girls race.

The Harriers packed well in the 3000m u15 boys contest thanks to Kartik Iyer (30th, 10.50), Luke Baker (45th, 11.15) and Laurence Johnston (63rd, 11.29).

Other results:

Abbie Burrett (U13G, 2000m), 59th 8.45, Georgia King (U13G, 2000m), 155th 10.14, Luca Brewster (U13B, 2000m), 159th 9.06, Matthew Lucas (U13B, 2000m), 119th 8.27, Naomi Carty (U15G, 2000m), 76th 9.02, Cora Sexton (U15G, 2000m), 95th 9.29, Rob Spalding (U15B, 3000m), 78th 11.46, Stirling Gibbons (U15B, 3000m), 99th 12.10, Annie Forbes (U17W), 60th 15.18.

● WHILE their team-mates were in action at the London Youth Games, a quartet of young Harriers were in action for the Surrey Schools squad at the West Midlands inter-counties in Birmingham.



BATTLING ON: Paul Burgess, Croydon, right, battling out the 13 race which he won in 6:45 the same time as his challenger Harry Reynolds of Richmond

Photo by Mike Fleet

ham. Holly Haile enjoyed a seventh place in the U15 girls category, with training partner Stevie Lawrence 16th in the same race.

Josh Haasz finished 18th in the U15s while Omar Harhara was 37th in the U13s race.

Croydon Harriers' seniors finished 21st overall in the London cross-country championships at

Parliament Hill.

Colin Oxlade (145th, 42.45), Martin Rowe (148th, 42.49), Andy Del Nevo (178th, 44.29) and Matthew Kiernan (189th, 45.34) completed the scoring quartet.

Eric Campbell completed the field in 249th in 65:51.

Elsewhere, Sam Clayton won the Lloyd ParkRun for the eighth time.



Holden victorious

TOM Holden, of South London Harriers, above, won the U15 London Youth Games Cross-Country race on Parliament Hill.

He took the honours in a thrilling sprint over the last 400 metres to the line against three challengers.

The last of those challengers, Paulos Asgodom, was an

athlete Holden beat to win the English schools cross-country.

Asgodom conceded defeat with about 10 metres to go, leaving Holden to win.

The teenager completed the 3km challenging and undulating course in 9 minutes 15 seconds, nearly a minute ahead of the fifth placed finisher.

Striders take the lions' share of success

STRIDERS of Croydon had the first three women finishers in the weekly parkrun at Lloyd Park on Saturday morning.

Serena Stracey led them home, finishing 11th overall in 22 minutes 22 seconds, while Debra Bourne was 17th (23.46) and Flora Kong 21st (24.50).

Striders' men were led by Lee Flanagan who finished second in 18.30.

Teenager Kieron Connor was fifth in a personal best 21.16, while Alan Dolton was sixth (21.30), Sam Poole ninth (22.09) and Damian Macenhill 10th (22.13).

Barry White placed 125th in the London Cross-Country Championships at Parliament Hill Fields, recording 41 minutes 25 seconds.

On the following day Tyler O'Callaghan ran well to place 28th in the Luton Marathon, recording 3:02.12. This placed him 24th in Striders' all-time marathon rankings.

In the Brighton 10K road race Damian Macenhill, in his second race of the weekend, was 114th in 37.43.

Russell Harmsworth ran 39.35, while Serena Stracey was again Striders' first woman, recording 41.09.

● LONE Collingwood runner Cat Gaskell ran the challenging Ice-Man 11km Trail Run near Frimley, finishing 75th place in 1 hour 06:06 seconds.

Six members contested the Banstead Woods parkrun, seven the Roundshaw Downs and one the Nonsuch Park event.

Members also contested the Epsom 10 - a hilly 10 mile road race starting at Tattenham Corner and taking in Langley Vale, Headley, Walton-on-the-Hill and finishing back at the Epsom racecourse grandstand.

Four ran the Luton Marathon in Bedfordshire.

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International stars are in the making

Schools Sport

WHITGIFT School's hockey programme, incredibly successful in the last couple of years, is helping to produce a new generation of international players.

The recent Futures Cup saw six Whitgift pupils selected for England assessments, four in the U18 squad and two for the U16 squad.

Luke Taylor, Jonty Griffiths, Robert Farrington and Peter Ellis-Philipps were all selected for the U18s and Rhys Smith

(U15) and George Oyeboode (U14), who plays his hockey at Oxted, were selected for the U16s.

Karl Stagno Master in charge of hockey and Surbiton Hockey Club first team coach said: "The boys work so hard on and off the field and whilst the school programme has a key role to play.

"The international programme provides our pupils with the exposure to the highest level of competition and coaching."

The first training sessions and assessments take place this weekend.



TAYLOR-MADE: Luke Taylor plays for East Grinstead

Coloma lift cup again

THE Coloma U13 six-a-side team won the Croydon Borough U13 Girls Football League Cup.

With a feast of football on display from all teams throughout the day, it was Harris Academy Crystal Palace, Woodcote and Coloma A who finished as group winners with Shirley High as the best runners-up.

The Coloma A team beat Harris Academy Purley A 2-0 in their opening game, Morgan Freeman and Hannah Rutherford getting the goals but could only manage a 0-0 draw against Edenham B despite dominating the game.

It meant they went into their final group game against Virgo

Fidelis level on points with their Upper Norwood opponents having only scored one goal more than them.

A hardworking display from the hosts saw them come out on top as Zgora Boret scored the only goal.

Coloma A beat Shirley High in the semi, leaving their best performance was kept until last as they triumphed over the Harris Academy, 3-1.

Coloma A will now face the Stanley Park High and Beaverwood School for Girls in a three-way play-off where the winners will represent Crystal Palace in the regional finals.