



Ladies report 2014

There were many positive and some very impressive results for the P&B ladies in 2014. It was a year troubled with illness and injury for almost all of the ladies, but we still managed plenty of results to be proud of. We achieved team and individual success and recruited new members as well as welcoming back existing ones.

- Alex Bell had awesome results on the track and in the XC mud. She was 3rd in the 800m at the U23 Championships in the summer. To kick off 2015 she became Yorkshire XC champion when she won at Lightwater Valley and was 7th in the Northern XC Champs.
- Claire Green had some great results on the Fells and proved that some members of P&B can actually use a compass when she stormed into 3rd place at the Irish leg of the British Championships. She was also 9th at Sedbergh in the English Champs. Overall Claire was 14th in the British Champs and 16th in the English Champs.
- Suzy Sharman has been out on the roads and trails and was 3rd at Belper Rugby Rover and 1st at Kirkby Malzeard 10k.
- Caroline Harding has been busy getting P&B colours on the TV on numerous occasions and despite injury has had a prolific year of racing.
- Rachel Pilling retained the Leeds race series title and won the Peco XC ladies league.

We also had some brilliant team results this year - 3rd at Donard Challenge (Irish race in the British Fell Championships), 7th in the British Champs, 2nd at Keighley WYXC. We had a team out for the FRA relay and enough ladies for a team at Ian Hodgson. All of the ladies have played a part in our team successes this year and things are looking good for 2015.

Quite a lot of the ladies ran through illness and injury to make sure we got teams out to a lot of races in 2014. So a huge thank you to everyone that stepped in to make up teams.

We welcomed Anna Anderson at the end of the summer when she stormed a podium position at Hellifield Gala. It is also great to have Jane Sheard back in Yorkshire, putting us through our paces, training in the Dales.

With the team looking so strong we should be able to improve on our 7th place standing in the British Champs and get a good team result at the English. Hopefully the dates for next XC season will work out better and we can improve on our team bronze a couple of years ago and see what we can do as a team at the Yorkshire XC Championships. We should also be able to make our mark on some of the relays and get an all ladies team out, rather than a mixed. I'm also going to make a concerted effort to coordinate teams a bit better to make sure we've got the numbers out when for key races.

We are beginning 2015 with more ladies than we've had for a while. We have 6 runners entered into the first race of the English Champs. Things are looking very good for the P&B ladies in 2015 and I'm looking forwards to reporting on a successful and injury free year in at the next AGM.

PUDSEY & BRAMLEY FELL RUNNING REPORT 2014

January – A quiet start to the year for P&B, just the solitary win for Danny Hope at Ashurst Beacon, but a strong showing at Stanbury Splash with Matt Lockyer the leading runner in 6th place.

February – Starting to see a few more faces out on the fells, and not just restricted to weekend racing. Danny Hope notched up win #2 of the year at Mr Sparkle's Dark 'un, whilst brother Rob got his season off to a good start with a win at the Bleasdale Circle race. A few people were getting some early season miles in with a 9th place for Colin Walker at Wadsworth Trog, long-term injury-prone Martyn Finn was seen at the Rombalds Stride and Boff Whalley finishing 5th at the New Chew Short race – not that short as he was out for 3 and a half hours.

March – racing season properly kicked off in March with the inaugural race in the inaugural club fell champs at Midgley Moor. Ian Nixon finished 2nd on the day, and he backed this up with 6th at the Stan Bradshaw Pendle Round. This race was won by Rob Hope, with Darren Kay also finishing in 4th. First race in the British Champs was held in Ireland in slightly foggy conditions. Despite a fast start, Rob took a few wrong turns but was still able to finish in 13th. The scoring team was backed up by Ian, Niall Bourke (highest champs position ever in 34th?), Danny and Darren. Run of the day, however, came from Claire Green who showed real class by finishing in 3rd. There was also a win for Darren at the mid-week Sedbergh 3 Peaks.

April – First race in the English Champs was held at Pendle where Rob finished a very close 2nd. Darren, Matt, Danny and Ian finished soon after to round out the scoring team, though were beaten by CVFR on the day. The next race in the club champs was the Bunny Run series. Neil Armitage set the standard with a sub-17 clocking in race 1, Ian then trumped that in race 2 when finishing 5th, but both were beaten by Rob who was 4th in race 3 (showing the standard of these races as Rob was 2 places higher at the previous weeks' English Champs). Rob did, however, win the prestigious Rivington Pike race. 3rd race in the club champs was at the classic 3 Peaks race, where Alex Jones was top P&B runner in 50th place.

May – Next up in both the English and Club champs was Coniston. Rob finished an even closer 2nd than he had at Pendle to the same runner, and the team finished 2nd again (though behind Borrowdale this time) with Darren finishing a fine 5th after some demon descending, Danny, John Heneghan and Ian completing the team. Claire was leading woman home for the P&B trio including Rachel Pilling and Caroline Harding. Charlie McIntosh won the long Pendle Cloughs race on the same day. The first big relay of the year was the Calderdale Way, ably organised by Mick, where the club finished 15th overall and first mixed thanks to the super-quick pairings of Claire/Rachel and Sarah Rowell/Suzy Sharman who were fastest females on their respective legs. Next club champs race was the navigational Jack Bloor where Ian used his map-reading skills to take the victory. P&B also took first V40 and V50 thanks to Neil and Jon Holah, and also first team with Charlie and David Alcock joining Ian and Neil. Rachel also got on the podium after finishing 3rd female. There were also wins for John at Caw, Danny at Blackstone Edge, Ian at Kildwick and Darren at Hutton Roof.

June – Next up in the club champs was the tricky Reservoir Bogs. Only 3 contenders, but the race report showed they all had a great time exploring Midgley Moor, with Niall coming out on top. Rob finally got his first win in a champs race with a win at the shortened Ennerdale Horseshoe (due to bad weather). The new route suited him well and he won comfortably; he

was backed up in the team by Niall, Charlie, Darren and Alex. Claire continued her good form finishing 18th female. There was also a British champs race in Scotland where Rob finished 3rd, and with Darren, John, Ian and Niall rounding out the team the club were looking good in the overall champs.

July – New recruit Jamie Parkinson started his time in Leeds well with wins at Cragg Vale and Stoodley Pike. David showed his true mountain craft with a 2nd place on the solo course at the Saunders Mountain Marathon. Rob continued his impressive champs season with 2nd at Kentmere, with Darren, Alex, Martin Hurst and Adam Speed joining in the scoring team (first scores for Martin and Alex!)

August – Club champs race at Round Hill was a rather wet affair, but Niall ploughed through the mud fir first P&B runner, whilst Rachel was 2nd female. Rob showed he was in contention for titles with wins at both champs races this month, taking 1st at Sedbergh Hills and Maesgwm Muddle, as well as victory at the lucrative Kilnsey Crag race. Jamie scored well in his first champs race for the club at Sedbergh with 9th place; Darren, James Titmuss and Charlie also scoring for the team. Claire was 9th female, whilst Rachel was 17th. At Maesgwm, Darren, Charlie, Alex and Niall also scored for the team ensuring that we had scores in every round of the British Champs. This left the club in 5th place overall in the men's, but after Rob's cracking season he regained the British title (as a V40 as well!) for the first time since 2009. This meant Rob now has a record-equalling 4 British titles to his name, joining with Ian Holmes. The women had a fine season, and finished a very creditable 7th place, the highest for a few years.

September – The 2nd of 3 long races in the club champs only had 2 finishers, with Steve Woods taking the maximum points. The final race of the English Champs was held at the Hodder Valley Show, where Rob was the only male runner, but proved he didn't need any back up by finishing 2nd. Rachel finished 14th with Anna Anderson in 46th. Unfortunately, Rob needed to win this race to win the English title (though he would have had to share it), but still, 2nd place overall in the English champs to go with his victory in the British is a pretty good haul in his first year as a vet. The club finished 5th in the men's team despite a couple of good 2nd places in the early part of the season.

October – Onto the relays, and first up was the Ian Hodgson relay in the Lake District with the teams organised by Ian. Despite a large number of dropouts leading up to the event, we managed to field both a men's and a mixed team. Although there were no spectacular results, it's a race which P&B should be present at, and hopefully we'll be up in the top echelons again next year. At the FRA Relays 2 weeks later P&B fielded a men's, a B (almost vets) and a women's team. Rob stormed round the first leg and was leading by a couple of mins. Unfortunately the team couldn't maintain this position, but still managed to finish 10th overall, with the B team in 70th and the women finishing 24th female team. There were 2 races in the club champs with wins for Neil and Rachel at Withens, and next recruit Joe Baxter and Caroline taking maximum at the Yorkshire Champs held at Great Whernside.

November – The ever popular Really Wild Boar had a host of P&B runners with Rachel claiming 2nd female spot, and Joe 4th in a very high standard race. Martin and Caroline took top club honours in the club champs at the long Tour of Pendle, Martin using local knowledge as he's a former member of Bowland.

December – 2 more races in the club champs, with Charlie taking top club honours for the men setting up a gripping finale at The Stoop. Unfortunately for Neil who was an inch away from taking the title, British champion Rob Hope turned up and though he ‘only’ finished 3rd, this was enough for him to win the club champs. Rachel finished top club runner again to cement her place at the top of the club leader board, having finished a very respectable 6th. Final race of the year for many was at the Auld Lang Syne, where a good club showing had Claire finishing the year in fine form with a 4th place.

Overall, another year with plenty of success for our members, the highlight being Rob’s 4th British title. We were able to field teams in all the main relays this year, with a mixed team at the Calderdale Way, a men’s and mixed at the Ian Hodgsons, and men’s, women’s and B team at the FRA’s. A total of 21 different people ran in the English and British champs races, 13 of whom scored individual points and 17 of whom were in the scoring team at 1 or more races. Rob ran in all 9 races, Darren, Alex and Rachel ran in 8 of the races, whilst Niall and Claire ran in 7 of them. Jamie, Martin, David, Graham, Adam and Anna made their champs debuts for the club, with Jamie proving he will be a force to be reckoned with in the future with a fine top-10 performance at Sedbergh. The men’s team finished 5th in both the English and the British, with the women coming 7th in the British.

I hope everyone is looking forward to the new season – will Rob retain his British title; will the women finish higher than the men in the team competitions; will we see a new name on the club champs trophy? Who knows, but one thing is for sure, the claret and gold vests of P&B will be seen on the fells all over the country for another year.

Pudsey and Bramley – Cross Country Captain – AGM Annual Report 28 January 2015

Seniors

The highlight of the year has P&B's Alex Bell exceptional cross country season. She won the Yorkshire Cross Country Championships at the start of this month. This was followed up by a strong performance in the Northern Cross Country, finishing 7th overall.

In the West Yorkshire this year there have been some strong individual performances from P&B however in many of the cross country races we have failed to field full men's and women's team which has been a disappointment. Jon Holah won the V50+ category Ryan Noon (U20) finished 6th in M20 league.

In the PECO League however, we have been very well represented. Newcomer Joe Baxter and old-hand Colin Walker are battling for supremacy at the top of the leader board. Joe is leading the overall classification with Colin in 2nd and leading the MV40 category after 3 races. Rachel Pilling lies in 3rd place in the Ladies league. In the team competition the Men have had a strong showing and are in the running for promotion to the First Division.

Juniors

In the Junior races, we have had a small number of competitors with Emma Boocock (U17), Josh Swatman (U17), Erin Hinchcliffe (U13), Mitchell Boocock (U13), Natasha Robinson (U11), and Luke Storr (U11) finishing in the overall league standings.

As with the Seniors, unfortunately we are not fielding full teams in the age group categories.

Next Year

Next year the emphasis will be on encouraging more participation in the cross country league. This would help to raise the club's profile within the district. It would also help to convert the great individual performances into a club performance.

Niall Bourke

Cross Country Captain

Pudsey and Bramley