

The Enfield Walker 2023

November



(Newsheet of the Walking Section of Enfield & Haringey AC)

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who apologises for any errors and who welcomes contributions and comments for future issues

Latest League news at <http://enfieldleague.weebly.com>

Still Much to Walk For!

Two “certs” and an “each way” sums up the closing stages of the 26th edition of the ERWL. Melanie Peddle only needs to register another high ranking performance to retain her ladies title. Shaheda in the ladies runner-up spot could be overhauled by any of the walkers in positions three to six if they turn out in the last two fixtures. In the men’s table, it is an injured and frustrating John Arthur watching the gap behind him close, with his clubmate Simon Morgan heading the chase.

In the team title race Ilford AC with four in the overall top seven are unassailable, but with a full turnout in the last two fixtures, Ashford AC could demote the promoting club into third position.

Three walkers are within striking distance of attaining Leaguer status (*participating in six races in a calendar year*) joining the 130 who have qualified since the ERWL’s inception 26 years ago. They are Grazia Manzotti needing one race, Abigail Jennings and Ian Richards who require two.

ERWL Tables after 9 Fixtures

To date 68 individuals from 20 clubs have participated in this year’s live League. Eighteen from 12 clubs have raced virtually. The report/results of the “Ilford Celebration Walks” Meeting on 14th October have been circulated, but have been amended and are attached..

Individual Tables

Ladies	Men	Virtual League (mixed)
1. 458/7 Melanie Peddle (55)	1. 443/7 John Arthur (60)	1. 476/9 Cath Duhig © (65)
2. 432/9 Shaheda Arthur (60)	2. 438/8 Simon Morgan (55)	2. 447/9 Marco Bernatzki (50)
3. 412/7 Sue Barnett (70)	3. 389/7 John Borgars © (75)	3. 433/8 Mark Williams (55)
4. 343/6 Fiona Bishop (60)	4. 377/6 Stuart Bennett © (60)	4. 366/9 Tony Perkins ©(70)
5. 338/5 Jaqueline Benson (SW)	5. 353/7 Dave Hoben (70)	5. 347/8 Ron Penfold (80)
6. 325/5 Grazina Manzotti (50)	6. 349/5 Dave Annetts (55)	6. 297/6 Karen Williams
7. 299/5 Maureen Noel (60)	7. 286/5 John Ralph (65)	7. 264/5 Richard Emsley (70)
8. 252/4 Abigail Jennings (SW)	8. 277/5 Chris Hobbs (65)	8. 253/6 Mick Graham (70)
9. 198/3 Emma Dyos (45)	9. 273/5 Tony Wilkinson (60)	9. 137/3 Diana Braverman
10. 194/3 Penelope Cummings (45)	10. 268/5 Chris Flint © (75)	10. 111//2 Keith Vallis

Team Table

1. Ilford AC'	1690	443 Arthur J, 438 Morgan, 432 Arthur S & 377 Bennett.
2. EHAC	1153	411 Barnett, 343 Bishop, 286 Ralph & 112 Walsh.
3. Ashford AC	1014	338 Benson, 277 Hobbs C, 208 Hobbs J & 191 Wilton
4. Loughton AC	968	458 Peddle & 389 Borgars & 121 Corneciu.
5. Surrey WC	811	353 Hoben, 268 Flint, 121 Reis & 69 Crane
6. Ilford AC “B”	732	253 Ainsworth, 232 Morris, 198 Dyos & 49 Shillabeer

Next ERWL Fixture is the

Bernie Hercock & 96th Enfield Open 7

(Permit: RWA23051-1)

u13 1m, u15 2m, u17 3m, u20/Seniors 5/7 miles

11th November - 10.30am QEII, Donkey Lane, EN1 3PL

Time table:	09.45	Registrations	11.42	Cut off point for start of 7 th lap
	10.30	Race Start	12.45	Presentation

Prizes: First 4 ladies/Men + 8 Spot Prizes + under 13's, u15's, u17's & u20's + Centurion's + Bob Clark Award

ENTRY ONLINE ONLY at <https://www.fabian4.co.uk>

If you have problems entering on line contact traceywilkinson17@aol.co.uk 07532 397 528

The Virtual version of the “96th Enfield Open 7” - Performances over the weekend of 11th/12th November to be registered with r.emsley@btopenworld.com before midnight on 15th October August stating name, club, time and Centurion No.

Noel Blatchford RIP

The race walking fraternity has been stunned by the passing of Noel Blatchford. Following her brilliant silver medal performance at the Euro Masters championships in Pescara, at the end of September, she became unwell and was hospitalized where it was discovered that she had a stroke. Unfortunately more were to follow and she passed away on 20th of October.



The news devastated anyone who had had the privilege of knowing her.

Noel was not only a competitive race walker; she was a qualified official and carried out duties across the athletic spectrum.

A Golden double at the 2019 Euro Masters at 10 and 20kms (pictured) which earned her not only the BMAF Outstanding female walker of the year, but the equivalent recognition by the European Masters Association.

The tributes below are testament to what a wonderful lady she was.



Just to say that I appreciate you sending news of the very sad passing of Noel. Apart from being a fine athlete she was a lovely lady who I shared some great conversations at Donkey Lane. I feel very sad. She will be missed.

Diana Braverman

Terribly sad. Noel was always such an enthusiastic, upbeat, positive lady who radiated enjoyment for everything in life, and racewalking in particular. What a finale, winning that medal, and she would just have been cross, I'm sure, not to have been in the 10k too. *Cath Duhig*

We are so shocked to receive the sad news of Noel, such a lovely lady, and so enthusiastic about our sport. We had only just sent her a get well card! When you get news of the funeral details please let us know as we would like to go if at all possible. Kind regards to you and Joan. *Pam and Eric Horwill*

I am very sad to learn of the terrible news of Noel's passing. She achieved.... Great race walking success ... this is stunningly bad news. *Adrian James*

So sad. Condolences, I have been a colleague on similar trips but couldn't get off work for Pescara. Great admiration for Noel. *Ed Shillabeer c590*

Gosh. That's so sad. RIP Noel xx. *Kathy Smith*

What a shock! A lot of the LWC lads and lasses got to know her through the Masters event in recent years, this is so sad. *Tony Taylor*

Please pass our condolences to Andrew. Arthur has no recollection of Noel. I am going through old photos to see if I can find any to jog his memory - extremely poor these days. *Bonita Thomson*

Dear Andrew

We were sorry to hear the very sad news about Noel and we send our condolences to you and your families. Noel's cheery smile and her company will be missed at Enfield League walks. *Tracey, Tony, George and Callum Wilkinson*

Noel was such a lovely lady, and will be greatly missed by all who knew her, so sad. *Mark Williams*

It is so sad. Kindly let me have Adrians address. *Dave Annetts*

It is very sad news. If you contact Andrew please tell him how sorry I am to hear this news. *Sue Barnett*

Sad news indeed. If you receive any further news regarding funeral arrangements, please let me know. *Ken Bobbett*

What terrible news. Noel was such a lovely person I'm sure I'm not alone in feeling very sad to hear what has happened. I can only send my sympathy to her family and friends. *Peter Hannell, Surrey Walking Club*

Sorry to hear the news of Noel. Please pass on our condolences as we do not have an address for Andrew. *Roger Michell*

I was so sad to learn of Noel's passing and can understand your devastation. I only knew her as an athlete, but was struck by her friendly manner and willingness to share her knowledge with other athletes and commitment. *Ron Wallwork*

It was very very sad to read the tributes to Noel. I always looked forward to our chats at the various race walking events. She was very respected as a competitive racewalker and much liked by all who met her. I and all others who knew her will miss her friendship. My thoughts are with Andrew at this very sad time. *Peter Howard*

In near perfect conditions (one short sharp shower) on an excellent course twenty walkers celebrated Ilford AC's Centenary year. The race was started by RWA President Chris Hobbs and the awards presented by Olympian Roger Mills. A healthy number of spectators among them some of Ilford's champions and club stalwarts of the past, like Steve Allen and his 96 year-young father Alex, all contributed to a nostalgic atmosphere.

The ladies dominated proceeding with the first three overall, led by Melanie Peddle fresh from her recent national age group record breaking performances and Euro Master's medals. Newmarket youngsters Sophie Blundell and Lily-Ann Cooper both impressed with their techniques and their times; Sophie on debut and Lily-Ann in her second race, improving by almost a minute

10km

1	Melanie Peddle	Loughton AC	58.12	W55
2	Jacqui Benson	Ashford AC	61.11	SW
3	Penelope Cummings	Herne Hill H	61.31	W45
4	Fiona Bishop	Enfield HAC	71.03	W60
5	Lesley Morris	Ilford AC	72.30	W60

8km Sian Baum Herne Hill H 57.55 W55

10km © = Centurion

1	Colin Harle	Belgrave H	61.52	M65
2	Stuart Bennett ©	Ilford AC	65.42	M65
3	John Borgars ©	Loughton AC	67.21	M75

6km Tony Wilkinson unattached 42.01 M60

Stephen Cartwright Gt.Bentley RC 46.04 M60

4.7km Francisco Reis Surrey WC 27.01 M60

U13's 2km

Sophie Blundell	Newmarket J	14.06	u13
Lily-Ann Cooper	Newmarket J	14.13	u13



B Race Results

10km	Simon Morgan	Ilford AC	67.15	M55
	David Kates ©	Ilford AC	67.42	M70
8km	Dave Hoben	Surrey WC	61.28	M70
	Jon May	Enfield H AC	64.30	M70
	Paul Firmage	Ryston R	66.47	M65
6km	Shaheda Arthur	Ilford AC	56.38	W60

Starter: Chris Hobbs (RWA President) - Awards Presenter: Roger Mills

Timekeeper/Recorders: Phil Welch, Pam Ficken ©, & Tracey Wilkinson - Judges: Elizabeth Benson (Chief), Simon Benson & Peter Cassidy

Hospitality/Local Arrangements: Stuart Bennett & Team, Hornchurch Athletic Cricket Club & Havering Council
Race Organisers/First Aid: Ron Wallwork © & Tracey Wilkinson

Roger Mills with winners Melanie and Colin.

Looking on, left local organizer Stuart Bennett & Dave Hoben, right Penelope Cummings & RWA President Chris Hobbs



Photographs by Dave Annetts

Virtual Result

Mark Williams	Birchfield H	10km	58.06	M55	Cath Duhig ©	CA Millennium	10km	65.58	W65
Mark Bernatzki	LA/Herten Ger	10km	72.15	M50	Karen Williams	Birchfield H	10km	81.19	W70
Ron Penfold	Steyning AC	5km	37.05	M80					
Mick Graham	Belgrave H	5km	40.29	M70					
Tony Perkins ©	Ilford AC	5km	50.21	M70					

Leaguers in Action *To qualify for Leaguer Status an athlete must participate in a six ERWL fixtures in a calendar year.*

Two leaguers were among the participants at the Lancashire Walking Club's "Albert Rigby" 10km on 7th October at Macclesfield. They were Tony Bell 69.58 who was second in the scratch race and Dave Hoben 77.56 was second in the handicap race. The race winner was Ken Connor, a relative newcomer to the discipline in a time of 67.28.

The new **Ray Hall Track series** had a successful launch at Sutcliffe Park on Sunday 22nd October with over 20 walkers of varying age groups. The respective winners of the main race over 5km were Abigail Jennings 24.36.60 and Chris Snook 20.35.30 making it a double for Aldershot AFD. Leaguers in action were Jacqueline Benson 29.23, Colin Harle 30.14.24, Mark Culshaw 32.57.69. Soon to be Leaguer Grazia Manzotti clocked 27.25.90.

Steining Open 10km on 28th October. Not unexpectedly because of the weather forecasts, a few walkers that usually supported this race decided not to travel, but those that did enjoyed the race conditions; warm, no wind and only a very brief shower halfway through the race.

Because of heavy rain during the previous night part of the course was flooded, which meant a hurried re-measure and change of course to a 1km lap instead of the usual 2.5km. The race was won by Centurion Ian Richards in 57.53. The first Leaguer home in 2nd place was Trevor Jones 62.56, whilst Fiona Bishop was the leading lady in 71.21 and Chris Flint clocked 80.38. In the supporting "Walk Fit" 5km Anne Jones recorded 39.02

Forthcoming fixtures 4th November at Tilgate Golf Club the "Jack Fitzgerald" Memorial Walks.

The distances are approximately 3 or 6 miles and the races are under the B rule.
Comprehensive details on the Vets AC website.

18th November at Tonbridge School, TN9 1JP

"Ray Hall Winter Track League"

Incorporating the Southern RWA championships

<https://meets.rosterathletics.com/public/competitions/details/about?id=24424> or details from noelcarmody@outlook.com

2nd December - 10.45am QEII, Donkey Lane, EN1 3PL

2023 Finale 5000m Track Races

u13 2000m, u15 3000m, u20/Seniors 5000m

EAPB Certificate event

Entry Online Only at <https://www.fabian4.co.uk>

The RWA (Southern Area) Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday 13th November 2023 at 7.15 pm. It will be a virtual meeting by Zoom and a link will be circulated nearer the date.

The AGM will be preceded by a short committee meeting starting at 6.30 pm to which all are welcome to attend.

It is an opportunity for walkers and officials to be involved in the selection of the committee for 2023/2024, and to vote on any Motions and Nominations. Race walking needs the support and involvement of everyone keen to see the discipline regain its momentum. The AGM is a useful platform to discuss how best to do this, and all ideas and suggestions will be carefully considered. See advance Notice of Meeting on back page. Zoom details will be circulated nearer the date.

*Centurion Stuart Bennett, Tony Wilkinson and Sue Barnett
Provide a perfect study of concentration and determination*



This newsletter gives the briefest information about the ERWL and more detailed results and a broader perspective of the race walking scene is available from the *Race Walking Record*, the *Essex Walker* and *Heel and Toe*.

Race Walking Record

Published promptly at the end of each month.
noelcarmody@outlook.com

Essex Walker

Lots of local information
dave_ainsworth@yahoo.co.uk

Heel and Toe online

Australian publication out Tuesdays
stuwalks@yahoo.com.au

**RACE WALKING ASSOCIATION
(Southern Area)**

President: Mike Fox

Hon Secretary Chris Flint (bettychrisrf@hotmail.com)
Chairman & Hon Treasurer Mark Easton (mark_j_easton@hotmail.com)
Hon Judges & Officials Chair Noel Carmody (noelcarmody@outlook.com)
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Glenthorne,
65 Liverpool Road, Walmer,
Kent, CT14 7N

25th October

Preliminary Notice of AGM

Notice is hereby given that the 92nd Annual General Meeting of the Race Walking Association (Southern Area) will be held as an online (zoom) event on **Monday 13th November 2023 at 7.15 pm**. It will be preceded by a short committee meeting commencing at 6.30 pm.

All reports will be circulated prior to the meeting (but will not be read out at the meeting). However, any comments on the reports received before the AGM will be read out at the AGM followed by discussion of the report, if appropriate. All reports must be received by the Hon Secretary by **Thursday 9th November**

Votes may be submitted in writing or electronically prior to the meeting and will be anonymous to the meeting. The President will chair the meeting unless he delegates the role to another Officer. The chair will only vote where a casting vote is required. Voting in the meeting will be open (ie. not-anonymous), Advance votes will then be added after the live vote to obtain the result.

Votes for affiliated clubs and other bodies will only be accepted (both in advance and on the day) from delegates who have been formally authorised by the secretary of the body, and letters of authority may be sent either electronically or by post but must be received by the RWA (Southern Area) Hon. Secretary by **Monday 6th November 2023**, the deadline for receipt of advanced nominations and motions. These should be made in writing to the Hon. Secretary either as a paper document or by email (address details above). Receipt will be acknowledged.

Any **motions** for consideration must be submitted by an affiliated club or body, or the committee of the RWA (South).

Nominations for **President and Vice President** must be submitted by an affiliated club or body by the above nomination deadline.

Nominations for **Chairman, Hon Secretary, and Hon Treasurer** may be made by an affiliated club or body by the nomination deadline.

Nominations for **Judges and Officials Secretary, Coaching & Development Secretary, Press & Publicity Officer, Rules, Records and Standards Secretary, Web Master, and Honorary Auditors (x2)** may be made by any affiliated club or body either in advance by writing to the Hon Secretary or from the floor of the meeting. If there is only a single nomination for any post then the nominated candidate will be declared elected unopposed.

Nominations for membership of the **Committee** may be made in advance or on the day. Ten members from affiliated clubs or bodies are eligible for election.

The formal Notice and Agenda of the AGM which will detail all motions and nominations received will be circulated to affiliated clubs and bodies by **Thursday 9th November 2023**.

Chris Flint *Hon Secretary, RWA (Southern Area)*