



IRVINE RUNNING CLUB

Newsletter – October / 2021

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The Irvine Committee for 2020/21 is as follow:

President: Mark Livingstone

Treasurer: Mike Flinn

Membership Secretary: Susan Rhodes

Secretary: Jennie Jackson

Website and IT Manager: Colin Miller

Male Club Captain: Stuart Moffat

Female Club Captain: Layna Thompson

Ayrshire Harriers Rep: Dave Campbell

Social Media: Amy Rhodes

Committee Member: Janet Robertson

Committee Member: Karen Figgins

Club Website

www.IrvineRuningClub.co.uk

For information both current and historic on the club and where documents such as membership and Covid club attendance can be accessed.

We will be looking at upgrading the website shortly so if you have any suggestions then please forward them to Colin.

The Chic Forbes Memorial handicap – Sunday 31/10/2021 11am

The race is a two miles handicap over the Irvine moor paths and is for runners from Irvine and Ron's Runners and is held in memory of one of our popular club members. With Covid restrictions easing we are now able to run the event as normal with chic's family being in attendance and catering back on. We only ask that inside masks should be worn when moving from your table. Thanks to those helping with marshalling, catering, and other functions necessary for the event to run successfully. The food will be sandwiches, cakes, etc and donations are requested from the members.

There's more on Chic in the 'From the Archives' section.

Cyclists v Harriers



Sunday 19 December 2021

Race Director: **Stuart Moffat**

The 62nd Cyclists V Harriers event which we host will be held on Sunday 19th December with minimal changes to the normal format. The main change will be that there will not be the usual selection of festive goodies from the table but instead there will be a smaller amount of prizes on offer which will be supplied by the club. As normal we encourage our members to take part in the race but if not, we would appreciate your help in running the event. Being a marshal on the course is interesting as it lets you see how this unique event unfolds.

The race director is Stuart Moffat and any questions regarding the event or if you want to offer assistance, should be directed to him at: s_moffat1@sky.com



Irvine Running Club Xmas handicap Monday 27th December 2021 1pm

Race Director: **Colin Miller**

Apologies for the image as it's only October but we are now looking ahead to the Xmas handicap which was sadly missed last year. Further details will follow over the next few months and similar to our other events if you don't intend running then any assistance is appreciated.

The race director is Colin Miller and any questions regarding the event or if you want help should be directed to him at: ccmclass@yahoo.co.uk

Summer Championship

The summer championship is now complete, and the league table attached to this newsletter. If you have any results which we have missed, and you want included then send details to Colin. The results are only valid from 01/04 to 30/09. There are also a few age categories missing so could you also forward your age category if currently omitted.

Over-all we have 50 members posting at least one result over the six-month period which is fairly impressive. This year has been a big change to the way the championship has been run recently and we will be reviewing it next year to see if we can make any changes which might benefit it. Trophies will be awarded at the Xmas handicap.

Events

Upcoming Events

31/10/2021 - Chic Forbes handicap

06/11/2021 - Short course CC championships, Lanark (pre-entry, club captains for info)

TBC - Ayrshire Cross-country championships

04/12/2021 - West district CC championships, Glasgow (pre-entry, club captains for info)

19/12/2021 - Cyclists v Harriers

27/12/2021 - Christmas handicap

Race Results

Full reports will follow in the local paper and **News** page of the website.



Back to normal championship events with the club taking part in the West District and Ayrshire cross-country relays and we all know what happened at the latter.

Winter Club Championship

We are now getting some results and the current league table is attached with this newsletter. We have also added a couple of additional counting events which are the Dundonald Boomerang 10K on the 26th of December and the Allan Scally Road relay next year.

For information the organiser of the championship is Stuart, and any questions should be directed to him.

This is a championship which has been resurrected and once again we will review it at the end of March / 22 to see if we need to change or improve the format.

09/10/2021 - West District CC Relays, Glasgow (pre-entry, club captains for info)

16/10/2021 - Ayrshire CC Relays

23/10/2021 - National CC Relays, Perth (pre-entry, club captains for info)

31/10/2021 - IRC Chic Forbes Handicap - TBC
06/11/2021 - Short course CC championships, Lanark (pre-entry, club captains for info)
TBC - Kilmarnock CC
04/12/2021 - West district CC championships, Glasgow (pre-entry, club captains for info)
TBC - Ayrshire CC - TBC
19/12/2021 - Cyclists v Harriers
26/12/2021 – Boomerang 10K
TBC - Turkey Trot 10K
27/12/2021 - Christmas handicap
TBC - Beith 10K
TBC - Masters Relay - TBC
12/02/2022 - Scottish Masters CC, Aberdeen
26/02/2022 - Scottish CC, Falkirk
TBC – Allan Scally Road Relay
TBC - Six stage road relay

From the Archives Chic Forbes



I realise that many, in fact probably most, of our current members are not aware of certain areas of the club's history and with the Chic Forbes handicap about to get underway I thought it might be useful to give a little information about the man. Chic could probably be classed as a harrier which was the name for a runner in those days. Many of our current clubs have harriers as part of their name eg Kilmarnock, Cambuslang, and Shettleston. In fact, our original club was Irvine YMCA Harriers. The picture above left was taken at the English National cross-country championships where Victoria Park AC, his original club, crossed the border to take the team title. This was no mean feat as they were running against a host of top-class runners from the English clubs. For information Chic is front Row second from the right and also in the middle of the front row is his brother Andy a Commonwealth Games medallist and former National Cross-Country champion. The other image is of Chic on the left passing the baton (yes that's correct a baton) on one of the Edinburgh to Glasgow stages to another formidable runner Iain Binnie.

The following paragraph is from the Scottish distance running history:

'Andy Forbes was maybe better known but his brother Chic was one of the most valuable team members in the 1950's. He latterly moved to Irvine and joined the local club and was a familiar figure at cross-country races for many years. Unlike most of the team though he did not get his Scottish international cross-country vest despite finishing seventh (1950) and fifth (1952) in the National Cross-Country Championship. He was nevertheless an athlete of quality unfortunately overshadowed by his big brother.'

The main winter events that everyone wanted to do well in were the Edinburgh to Glasgow road relay and National Cross-country where the following paragraph speaks volumes for what he achieved.

'Chic ran after 1960 of course but his best years were undoubtedly those of the 50's when he contributed to seventeen team medals, ten of them gold and his three fastest stages in the relay plus three second fastest and two thirds speak volumes for his consistency.'

If that's not an impressive running career, then I don't know what is. He was an outstanding individual and team runner. As mentioned, when Chic moved to Irvine, he joined our club and after his running career stopped moved into coaching. Many members in those days learnt a lot from him and his training group included some of our current members, Liz McGarry, Helen Morton, and Mary Miller. One of his happiest moments at the club was when, after a 31-year lapse, we managed to qualify for the Edinburgh to Glasgow relay and brought him along on the minibus for inspiration. What he also brought with him were some of his EtoG medals to show to us.

When Chic passed away his daughter Rosslyn presented a few of the club members with some of his medals and trophies and Mary and myself were given a winner's shield from one of the National cross-country championships.

The race we host is a fitting memorial to Chic and is appreciated both by those who knew him and more importantly his family who look forward to attending.

Contact the committee if there is anything in the newsletter you might want more information on or if there is anything you would like us to include in future issues.
