

Denmead Striders Running Club
Annual General Meeting 2026
Friday 27th March, 7pm at Denmead War Memorial Hall.

Minutes

1. The Chairman – Clare Welch

Another great year for the club with great results in the Hampshire Road Race League and the Cross Country. Thank you to Sam, Andy, and Paul for a great job rallying the troops and keeping members updated on upcoming races.

Obviously, we know about the sad news that Paul is stepping down as Cross Country Captain but am excited to say that Mat Sibley has put themselves forward and unless anyone has any objections or would like to put themselves forward, I propose that we welcome him onto the committee.

Big thank you to Paul for your contribution over the last 9 years and big shoutout for the dizzy heights of a league win in your tenure. I know you will be missed, but I also know it is being passed over to safe hands.

We also say goodbye to our Club Secretary Lisa Peckover. A big thank you to Lisa for all her hard work and dedication to the club over her time on the committee. She has been an integral member of the team, and it is a shame we have not yet found a replacement, but I am sure a suitable candidate will be found over time.

Another role that is vacant is the Newsletter editor due to Dawn stepping down, again a big thank you to Dawn for all her efforts and creating great reads over the years. This role is to be decided if it is required due to the evolution of social media.

2025 saw another great bunch of new members embracing our club fully and already this year we seem to have some great additions. I would like to thank all members for making them feel welcome and supporting them along the way and would encourage you to continue to do so over 2026.

The Denmead 10k was another success and again had positive feedback from runners who took part. Thank you to Bekki Leaves and the rest of the committee for all their hard work in putting this together. We unfortunately say goodbye to Gav on the committee and Sam (I think) so a big thank you to them for their work over the last few years; we do however welcome Chris Penfold onto the team. Nice to see a new name on our list of volunteers.

Thank you as always to Gary and the team of coaches for the great training schedule and as always being able to adapt when challenges occur within the lanes or around the Waterlooville Winter venue. It was also great to have a new venue in the Horndean School which received great feedback from the members.

The club kit has been renewed and updated to Ronhill and positive feedback has been received so far. I am happy to continue with the club kit management and feedback to the committee as and when required.

Unfortunately, as mentioned above we have not had a replacement come forward for either Club Secretary or Chairman so current understanding is:

- As current Vice Chair, Kimberley Churchill will oversee in the interim but with continued drive for Chairman role to be filled.
- Club Secretary – Julia & Stuart have shared responsibility until a replacement has been filled.
- Clare & Lisa are more than happy for names to be stated on the EA website for now until replacements are found. Any emails can be forwarded to the central email address.
- Comprehensive handover notes have already been circulated to the current committee, but Lisa & Clare will still be able to help should any questions arise.
- An open committee meeting will be held on 16th April for all members to attend so they can see what is involved and hopefully encourage members to join the team.

1.1 & 1.2 2025 AGM minutes – Matters arising.

The minutes from the previous AGM (March 2025) were agreed as a representative account of the meeting.

There were no matters arising from the previous AGM.

2. Reports from Committee members.

2.1 Vice Chairman – Kimberley Churchill

Kimberley has nothing to report.

2.2 Club Secretary – Lisa Peckover

Nothing major to report for the year. The committee met on several occasions during the year, and the minutes are available on the website. There were no proposed changes to the Constitution.

The following have been completed and uploaded to the England Athletics portal, which will need to be done annually.

- Privacy Policy
- Inclusion Policy
- Health and Safety

As I am now stepping down instruction etc have been completed for all my jobs and the committee members are aware of where these are. I am happy to stay on the EA website as Club Secretary for now and forward any incoming correspondence.

Thanks to all the committee members for their support over the last few years.

2.3 Treasurer – Stuart Hoare.

The annual accounts are attached detailing the income and expenditure of the club during the year ended 31 December 2025.

2.4 Membership Secretary – Julia Revill.

We had a membership total of 178 for 2025, only a few less than last year, welcoming back a lot of our members and 19 new ones. There is a good turnout for every training session which is very pleasing and seems to be paying off with our race results over the year. We are looking forward to next season, hopefully with less rain.

2.5 Club Captains

Ladies – Samantha Morris

Another season done, and a strong one at that! We've had some really impressive results this season even without full team participants – this shows we truly have some talented runners.

Overall 36 ladies took part in one or more of the HRRL races, with 7 completing 7 or more to make the ranking. We had Nicky Thomas making the top ten overall, Dawn Banting completing all 12 races and a list of PBs that would have me going on for quite a while if I were to read out!

It was our second year having a C team after we saw an increase of female club members, however this year we have seen a drop in complete B and C teams for some of the races. So, if I could encourage you to join us, it's not about who can make the "A Team", you don't have to be a fast runner – the consequence of an incomplete team is a higher score for that team (we want as low as possible). To take part is better than not taking part at all for fear of not being fast enough. If you want to know more about how the scoring works, please feel free to approach me – I'm a stats kinda girl and can talk about performance until I'm blue in the face!

If you have any suggestions on how we can encourage more female runners to enter the HRRL races, let me know. I'm happy to hear all ideas to ensure we have a strong and inclusive ladies team!

2024/25 season stats as follows:

Team scores

- Ladies A team finished 3rd overall – 25 points (1 point away from 2nd!) – 12 races with full team
- Ladies B team finished 2nd overall – 22 points – 10 races with full team
- Ladies C Team finished 2nd overall – 45 points – 3 races with full team

Both teams in the first division

Individuals in the top (top 70)

Rank	Name	N races	Score Avg
10	Nicola Thomas	8	90.14
33	Dawn Banting	12	71.31
35	Lisa-Marie Peckover	8	69.53
40	Caroline Whiting	9	64.30
55	Marie Wiles	8	54.03
63	Jenny Parks	10	47.44
90	Clare Welch	8	17.06

The current 25/26 season is now over halfway, with some impressive results. However, in the words of Pitbull – "the biggest room to have is room for improvement". So far, we have seen 22 individuals take part in 1 or more races, 15 of them doing 3 or more. Marie Wiles is currently 10th in the league and is the only member to have completed 7/7 of the races so far (Great achievement!).

Standings so far with 7 out of 12 races completed

Team scores

Ladies A team - 3rd – 29 points – 7 races with full team
Ladies B team - 3rd – 29 points (1 point away from 2nd) – 6/7 full teams
Ladies C team – 7th – 58 points – 2/7 with full teams.

My take from this is after being unable to race at the end of the season myself due to injury, my attention probably wasn't 100%. Now I'm fully healed and back to my racing days, not only have I ensured I've entered a majority of the event (there are a couple due to a holiday – sorry!), ensuring I'm visible at each race, ready to spur everyone on! If I can see some more full teams, this will make me super happy, so coming up we have:

Upcoming races:

- Salisbury 10 – 12th April (Sold out and we have 3 full teams!)
- Alton 10 – 10th May (6 Female runners – need 6 more for full teams!)
- Netley 10k – 17th May
- Alresford 10k – 21st June
- Lordshill – 5th July

Men – Andy Taphouse

First of all, I want to say a sincere thank you to Mark. Taking over the reins from him was no small task, and I want to acknowledge the strong position I inherited.

2024–25 Results:

- A1 – 3rd
- B1 – 3rd
- C – 3rd

A solid foundation across all teams.

This Season

There are some incredibly strong performers at the front who deserve real recognition — Ollie, Jon, Henry, and Matt. Outstanding performances from all of them, and with consistent attendance, I genuinely believe the A League could be won. They make us competitive. They make the league worthwhile.

Current Standings:

- A Team – 2nd
- B Team – 3rd
- B3 (C Team) – 1st

Standout Result of the Season:

Ryde – 2nd overall, with B & C teams finishing 1st in their league. Not bad at all.

I can't talk about this club without recognising the B and C teams — particularly the C team. They consistently top the tables, show up, win events, and place in the top three. It's all about consistency, and they embody that.

A special mention goes to Rob W, Neil H, Jeffrey S, and Tony L, who have all competed in all seven races so far.

Rob currently leads as top male strider and is taking home the Captain's Award — a fantastic achievement.

2.6 XC Representative – Paul Welch

Unfortunately, due to bad weather the season has been a bit stop start and is still not yet complete.

Bourne woods & Alice holt had to switch dates, Chawton house had to be cancelled with no talk of rearranging and the race that Fareham are putting on has been delayed from its original date, to now be run on Easter Sunday (5th April), unless Alton suddenly rearrange the Chawton house fixture I would expect the Fareham race to be the last of the season.

Current standings after 4 races are:

Pos	CLUB	Benyon's	Bourne woods	Lord Wandsworth	Alice Holt	Total
1	FLEET & CROOKHAM A.C.	1	6	1	1	9
2	LISS RUNNERS	1	3	3	3	10
3	BASINGSTOKE & MIDHANTS	3	1	2	5	11
4	HASLEMERE BORDERS A.C.	4	4	4	1	13
5	FARNHAM RUNNERS	7	2	4	4	17
6	HART ROAD RUNNERS	5	6	4	7	22
7	ALTON RUNNERS	9	5	7	7	28
8	DENMEAD STRIDERS	6	8	8	6	28
9	PORTSMOUTH TRI	10	10	10	11	41
10	HATCH WARREN RUNNERS	8	12	13	15	48
11	FAREHAM RC	13	10	16	10	49
12	HOOK RUNNERS	11	17	11	11	50
13	WAVERLEY HARRIERS	21	13	9	9	52
14	FARNHAM TRI	16	9	14	18	57
15	VICTORY A.C.	18	14	11	19	62
16	CHINEHAM PARK R.C.	12	17	20	14	63
17	SHERFIELD PARK RUNNERS	13	20	17	16	66
18	GOSPORT ROAD RUNNERS	17	15	18	17	67
19	STUBBINGTON GREEN	20	21	15	13	69
20	PORTSMOUTH JOGGERS	19	15	19	20	73
21	COVE JOGGERS	15	17	21	21	74
22	HAVANT A.C.	22	22	22	22	88

It looks like we will achieve a top 10 finish, but a top 5 may just be out of reach now. It was great to see eight new runners to XC scene in Dave Deane, Lewis Banner, Mark Alibone, Rich Hammond, Simon Bond, Trevor Condon, Bethany Wilson & Clare Taylor. We also had a lot of returning faces which I can now class as "my regulars", so the desire to run these races is still strong.

So far, our men have managed one 1st place, two 2nd places, one 3rd place finish from the 4 races.

The ladies team positions were two 11th's two 12th's .

The combined team results are 5th, 6th and two 8th's.

We've had a total of 37 men (slightly down from 38) and 16 women (same as last year) competing in at least one race this season, 9 of these have completed all four races to date, which scores them bonus striders points, with one to go.

The runners that have completed all four races are, Alex Blake, Chris Penfold, Gary Armstrong,, Neil Hawkey, Paul Welch, Rob Wilson & Tony Liddell for the men, and just Caroline Whiteing & Julia Revill for the ladies.

There were 19 different scorers, with 11 coming from the ladies, so although the ladies numbers are slightly lower, they've shared the responsibility very well.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone for turning up to support the club at these races, from results collators to volunteer marshals and obviously everyone that ran for the club. Not just for this year, but for my entire tenure as cross-country captain.

2.7 Coaching – Gary McCawley

The past year, has seen the Denmead Striders demonstrate a determination and purpose to perform well and achieve the successes of the previous year.

The coaching team should feel proud of their achievements this year as club members took part in the HRRL, SCCL and non-league events throughout the summer and winter. The winter training this year saw hardly any disruption, albeit the last 6-8 weeks have been a bit of a challenge as the new retail park and water lorries caused disruption along the time trial route. This winter also saw the club continue to train together on the hills.

The next winter schedule I will look to investigate a hill which is closer to our Berewood training area.

Once again, it has been encouraging to see new members join the club and embrace the schedule, hopefully it has given them and regular members the confidence to push themselves further as they achieve their running goals.

As a coach it is also encouraging to see the improvements everyone makes during training and racing. I have been proud to see club members compete in their first ever race or watch on as a Strider crosses the finish line for another race of many. The summer schedule is now complete and has been published on the club website. The schedule will contain the usual mix of intervals, sustained runs and the Handicap Run Series. Last year saw the introduction of a grass track session at the Horndean Technology College. Following the positive feedback this received, the club will once again be using this facility and increasing the number of sessions from 2 to 4.

The coaching team has now 10 qualified coaches. Oliver Craig joined the coaching team after obtaining his LiRF licence, Ollie is now taking the CiRF coaching licence. The coaching team all worked well together, helping each other out if sessions could not be taken. I would like to thank the team for all their time, enthusiasm and dedication which allows the club to actively organise a structured training schedule along with other ad-hoc runs over the course of the week.

I would also like to give thanks to the volunteers who help out during the winter time trials and the summer handicap.

The coaching team all volunteered for the role and do not get paid for their time and commitment. They applied to give something back to the club and to allow us all to train in a structured manner within a safe and fun environment. With England Athletics demanding more of coaches to keep their licences, can I politely ask members to respect this when coaches are explaining the session.

I wish all the members a happy and injury free year of running in 2026/27.

2.8 Denmead 10k – Bekki Leaves

The Denmead 10k 2025 was once again a sell out this year and with an increased number of entrants at 300. Another record profit as well at £2,102. This is despite not securing sponsorship this year and down to the increase in entries. 2026 entries have been increased to 350.

3. Affiliation to the HRRL and SCCL for 2026/27

The Club Secretary put forward a proposal that the club remained in the HRRL and the Southern Counties Cross Country League for 2026/27 season.

The proposal was put to the A.G.M. and all committee members agreed.

4. Election of Officers.

The following committee members had resigned their posts at or before the AGM;

Chairman – Clare Welch
Club Secretary – Lisa Peckover
XC Captain – Paul Welch
Newsletter Contact – Dawn Banting

Volunteers to take on these positions of Chairman and Secretary were not found. It was agreed the committee members would take on the various jobs of the above roles until such time volunteers are found. A volunteer for XC captain was found.

The secretary asked if all committee members were happy with the below elected officers.

Position	Elected Officer
Chairman	To be found
Vice Chair	Kimberley Churchill
Treasurer	Stuart Hoare
Club Secretary	To be found
Membership Secretary	Julia Revill
Club Captains	Sam Morris and Andrew Taphouse
XC Representative	Mat Sibley
Newsletter Contact	To be found
Website	Graham Clarke
Members Representative	Steve Trevenna
Members Representative	Jenny Parks

With no further changes the above officers were appointed.

5. Health and Safety

Nothing to report.

6. Website Update – Grahame Clarke

In general, the website has been running smoothly throughout the year without any technical problems!

I hope that most information on the site is being kept up to date including contact details, race results, Striders' League, Winter Time trials, Summer Handicap and Training programmes. Inevitably, changes will occur of which I am not aware e.g. links to external websites, dates of some events etc. In these cases, I urge any member who spots them to let me know by email as soon as possible so that I can rectify the error immediately.

Many thanks to Clare for her club updates, Rachael for continuing to collate race results in a timely fashion, Dawn for her periodic newsletters, Gary for his training schedules throughout the year and Julia for her Winter Time Trials and Summer Handicap results and Paul for the cross-country results. Photographs of recent races are always welcome, and I could use a few more – there is plenty of space on the website!

I am aware that some aspects of the website need a bit of a revamp e.g. the club photograph and the header photograph on the home page are several years old now, the Events Calendar needs re-instating. Also, I understand that some members would like to see a more "mobile friendly" version of the site. I hope that all of these features can be expedited over the summer months. I am always open to feedback on the site and suggestions for additions and improvements will be well received from ALL members– so please do not hesitate to get in touch!

7. Club Newsletter – Dawn Banting

Thanks to all of the committee for their support and for the contributors.

Dawn was absent from the AGM but has stepped down in her role as Newsletter editor.

8. A.O.B.

8.1. Membership fees (Raised by Stuart Hoare) – EA will be raising their annual fee to £23 with effect from 1st April. Our current membership fee is £30 per annum meaning the club will only receive £7 towards the cost of running of the club.

An increase in membership was discussed, baring in mind the research Stuart had done on other clubs in the area and their fee structure. It was agreed the new fee structure (from 1st April 2026) will be £15 plus EA's registration fee of £23, totalling £38. This will need to be confirmed to the members as soon as possible.

8.2. HRRL Race Votes (Raised by Lisa Peckover) – The HRRL have sent us a list of races to vote on for the next season. This was sent on to the club captains to look at before discussing the with committee. Andy Taphouse went through the list one by one with the committee picking which races they believe will be good for the league. Andy then submitted the votes to the HRRL team.

9. Chairman's Closing Remarks.

So, as we head into 2026, it's a goodbye from me.

What can I say? It has been emotional!

Starting a role at the start of the pandemic was a baptism of fire to say the least but 6 years on it seems like a distant memory.

I cannot thank the committee enough, past and present, for all your support and commitment over the last 6 years it really has been an absolute pleasure and honour being given the opportunity to be your Chair.

Everyone has brought enthusiasm, passion, teamwork, ideas and hard work, and it really has made my time in the role a joy.

Whilst I am not handing over to a particular individual at this stage, I know I leave it all in very capable hands and am excited to see how things evolve over the year.

Lastly thank you to all the members for the amazing memories. Whilst I will no longer be front and centre I look forward to running with you all round the lovely Denmead Lanes – I promise not to have the curse of the chairman and disappear off into the distance – you don't get rid of me that easily!

Denmead Striders		31 December 2025		31 December 2024
Income & Expenditure Summary		£	£	£
Subscriptions, received			4,703.00	4,746.00
Less Paid to England Athletics			<u>(3,267.00)</u>	<u>(3,062.00)</u>
			1,436.00	1,684.00
Other Income:				
Interest received		44.66		38.44
Others	Subs overpaid - refundable	-		-
			<u>44.66</u>	<u>38.44</u>
NET INCOME AVAILABLE TO CLUB			<u>1,480.66</u>	<u>1,722.44</u>
Less Expenditure				
Affiliations		530.00		525.00
Club Kit	held in stock for resale	1,157.40		-
School Track hire		120.00		
Coaching courses		222.50		320.00
Transport for Ryde Road Race		408.00		384.80
Website hosting and domain		-		-
Donation, woodland trust		100.00		-
Awards night,		810.08		590.11
Christmas party		266.45		617.14
Other sundry costs		166.43		-
		<u>3,780.86</u>		<u>2,437.05</u>
			3,780.86	
Club operating Surplus / (Deficit)			<u>(2,300.20)</u>	<u>(714.61)</u>
Denmead 10K (to date)	Cash Surplus/(deficit)		2,017.15	2,036.85
	Net Surplus / (Deficit)		<u>(283.05)</u>	<u>1,322.24</u>
Denmead Striders				
Net Asset statement				
		31 December 2025		31 December 2024
Reconciliation of funds				
Balance of reserves held at 1st January		5,296.13		3,973.89
Surplus funds generated in year		(283.05)		1,322.24
Balance of funds held by club at 31 December		<u>5,013.08</u>		<u>5,296.13</u>
Represented by:				
Funds held at bank:				
Current account		925.56		2,155.27
Deposit account		4,087.52		3,042.86
Funds in Cash		-		98.00
		<u>5,013.08</u>		<u>5,296.13</u>