

English Schools Championships – 9th July 2010

One of Biggleswade AC's junior athletes, Euan Dickson Earle, competed in the 80m Hurdles at the English Schools Championships in Birmingham last Friday. Participation in this prestigious event is by invitation only and those competing represent the future of British athletics.

Euan won his heat comfortably in a personal best time of 11.55 secs and was leading in the semi-final but unluckily he clipped the final hurdle and lost his momentum finishing 4th in a time of 11.91 secs. The first two finishers from each of the semi-final, and the faster losers went through and on this occasion he narrowly missed out on a place in the final.

Southern Men's Athletics League – 10th July 2010

The penultimate match in the Southern (Senior) Mens League saw the Biggleswade AC team make the gruelling drive to Dartford in Kent. Unfortunately they did not have the best of starts, arriving an hour after the event was underway, owing to severe traffic congestion en route.

However, despite being late the team rallied together to finish the day in 3rd place with 154 points taking them to the top of the league with just once event remaining.

Everything now centres on the last meeting of the tournament at Luton on the 31st July. If Biggleswade AC win this event they stand a good chance of being promoted to the next division.

Eastern Young Athletes League Bedford – 11th July 2010

Biggleswade AC's junior athletes journeyed to Bedford for the 4th leg of the Eastern Young Athletes league, and recorded a series of excellent performances.

Connor Trudgill and Callum Dickson-Earle started proceedings with the shot, resulting in a put of 6.30m for Callum and one of 6.03m for Connor. Callum then dashed over to the track for his first competitive race in the 75m hurdles, resulting in a brilliant time of 16.1 secs. Callum's older brother, Euan, then stormed down the track for victory in the under 15 hurdles.

In the 800m Oliver Trudgill had a great run, finishing in 4th in the under 13 race with a personal best time of 2:47:03. There were some very respectable performances in the sprint races, with Evie Mugridge finishing 4th in 14.8 secs in the under 13 "A" race and Megan Roberts also finishing 4th in the "B" race in 14.5s. Bradley Lusty finished 3rd in the under 13 "A" race in 13.9 secs and Callum Dickson-Earle finished 3rd in the "B" race with 13.8 secs. In the non-scoring race, and competing for the first time in Biggleswade AC strip, Ethan Drayton finished strongly in a time of 14:07 secs. In the under 15s Hannah Lusty beat her previous time, finishing 5th in 14.3 secs in the girls race, and James Vosper finished 2nd in the boys race in 12.0 secs. Rounding off the sprints in the under 17s race, Andrew Baldwin ran well to finish in a time of 12.5 secs.

In the field events Oliver Trudgill jumped a personal best of 3.38m in the long jump, and Bradley Lusty an impressive 3.76m. Euan Dickson-Earle leapt 1.60m in the under 15s high jump but aggravated a previous injury forcing him to pull out of the relay team. Joshua Watson also jumped 1.60m in the under 17s event resulting in a 2nd place.

Back to the track, and in the 1500m Connor Trudgill went off to a flying start in the under 13s race before settling down to a more sensible pace and finishing in 2nd with 5 mins 01s. There was a great battle in the under 15s between two Biggleswade athletes, with James Thomas 3rd in 5 mins 06s and Jared Taylor narrowly 4th in 5 mins 08s, helping each other achieve personal best times.

Kim Stonebridge showed great resolve, achieving 3.51m in the under 17 long jump. Having landed badly and needing first aid treatment Kim persevered with a strapped knee. Though she was forced to retire after one round in the triple jump she then went on to compete in the shot put, achieving 6.20m.

In the 200m Bradley Lusty and Ethan Drayton battled strongly to finish in times of 28.4s and 31.6s in the under 13s race, while Hannah Lusty ran well to finish in a very respectable 5th in the under 15s. James Voser stormed down the track to finish 2nd in a pb of 24.8s.

The last race on the track was the 4 x 100m relay, with the under 13s team of Connor & Oliver Trudgill, Bradley Lusty and Callum Dickson-Earle coming through in third place.

The final event in the series is on 15th August at Hemel Hempstead.

Cycling the length of Britain

Biggleswade AC Club Chairman, Nigel Bush, and Vice Chairman/Senior Coach, Ken Prior, got on their bikes in July to cycle the length of Britain in memory of fellow club member, and outstanding local athlete, Roger Wadeley, who died last month. By taking on the 950 mile route from Lands End to John O'Groats route, Nigel and Ken are raising funds for St John's Hospice, Moggerhanger and Macmillian Cancer Support – both charities that cared for Roger and do a magnificent job for people with cancer.

The pair took only nine days to complete the route, cycling an average of more than 100 miles each day. They battled head winds, saddle soreness and steep hills, as well as some rapid route reassessment due to road closures! The adventure ended on Sunday afternoon when they arrived in John O'Groats tired and sore, but happy. Roger would have been proud.

If you would like to make a donation to the charities supported by this bike ride please visit Ken and Nigel's fundraising page at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/lejog4rog>