



NEWSLETTER

Dec 2025



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- Breaking News!
- Santa Claus is coming to town



Dec 2025 

Hello everyone and welcome to my first newsletter and our final reports of 2025.

As we wrap up 2025, I want to take a moment to celebrate everything you have achieved. It has been an incredible journey, and I'm honored to step into the role of Chair for such an inspiring group of runners.

🏅 This year we have seen your amazing dedication and hard work pay off. From countless PBs to club records being smashed, your achievements have been nothing short of phenomenal. Every run, every race and every training session has contributed to making our club stronger than ever.

🤝 Our cross-country season showcases what makes this club special – teamwork. Whether you are racing through mud or cheering from the sidelines, the support and camaraderie are second to none. Thank you for showing up and giving it your all.

🎉 Beyond the miles, our social events have been a huge success thanks to your enthusiasm. These gatherings remind us that running is about more than just pace—it's about friendship and community. Thank you for continuing to make these moments so memorable.

💡 We have an amazing group of individuals on the committee who are passionate about making our club even better. In the new year, we will be sharing some fabulous initiatives designed to support your running goals, strengthen our community, and make 2026 our best year yet. Stay tuned for more details in January!

I would also like to thank Karen, who has been our ever-present President over the past 3 years. As Karen passes the baton, we're thrilled to welcome Thom into the role. We wish him every success as he takes on this important position and look forward to the fresh ideas and energy he'll bring to the club.

Wishing you all a joyful festive season and a fantastic start to the new year!

Claire
Chair, Stopsley Striders.



Meet the Team

COMMITTEE

Club President - Thomas Darby

Chair - Claire Bracey

Membership Secretary - Chris McLaren

Treasurer - Andy Durrant

♥ Welfare/Safeguarding - Thomas Derby + Nicola Abubacker ♥

★ CLUB CAPTAINS ★

LEIGH BETTS + NICK BETTS

🏁 RACE DIRECTOR 🏁

KALLUM WRIGHT

Ryan Pearson – Kit, Merchandise + Trophies

Gary Fowler + Evelyn Lutterodt – Web Admin

Lauren McKay + Tom Rankin – Everything Social

Liz Evans – Charity Support

Deb Bierton, Jane Few, Phil Abbitt, Rob Barnes, Sandy Reeve Smith,





Meet the Team

COACHES

Gez Fallon

Gill McLaren

Graham Crouch

Jane Few

Kate Neale

Maria Petts

Nicola Abubacker

Phil Abbitt

Rob Barnes

Stuart Harries

Tom Rankin

Tony Green



To qualify - Gary Fowler + Sandy Reeve Smith



Club Championships



The rules for this yearly event are under review and further information will be provided following the January committee meeting.

We apologise for any inconvenience this causes, if you have any questions, please reach out to a member of the committee.



Thank you for your patience.



Event Suggestions



Events suggestion, please also check our Facebook 'Race Suggestion' page for other events taking place that may not be mentioned below:

26th Dec - Striders annual Boxing Day Run

31st Dec - ATW St Albans 10k

3rd Jan – Beds AAA XC Championships

11th Jan – 3 Counties XC League

11th Jan ATW Hatfield 10k (new event for 2026)

25th Jan ATW Bedford 5 + 10

Submit your race results on the website:

Club Competitions > Record your race > Your Races and add to the form.

Alternatively: www.stopsleystriders.org/record-your-race

For all ATW events remember to claim your 10% Strider Discounts, use the code STOPSLEY_10



Beginners course

We are pleased to announce our
Beginners course will be available
again in 2026.

The Class of 2026 will start on
Thursday 16th April and finish with
the 5k Graduation 4th July.





Strider Socials

Boxing Day Run

January Social

Club 100 relaunch

Sunday Social relaunch

Award Night

Mothers Day Run

Easter Sunday Charity run



Further announcements to be made

Watch this space!





!TRACK TASTER SESSION!

We are holding our first ever FREE yes FREE Track taster session for all members who have not yet tried out this club night.

Take this opportunity to dispel the myth that track is for elite runners only – it most definitely is not – if I can do it so can you!

Join us on Tuesday 20th Jan, when we will hold a meet and greet to show you around the facilities, introduce you to the coaches and other members and stay with you throughout the evening.

SIGN UP ON SPOND



Do you recognise this man?

Spotlight on Dennis – Our very own Santa



Every December, Dennis brings the magic of Christmas to life by volunteering as Keech Hospice Care's Santa Claus. From the Keech train, he visits hundreds of streets in our town, spreading festive cheer and supporting an incredible cause. His kindness, dedication, and community spirit make us proud to call him one of our own.

Thank you, Dennis, for inspiring us all!