



BARNES RUNNERS

The Barnes Bugle 5th Anniversary Edition

What were you doing on Tuesday, January 18, 2005? Tony Blair was still Prime Minister, Elvis Presley (I kid you not) was number one in the charts. Sven-Goran Eriksson was manager of the England football team.

On the same rather cold night, twelve runners met at Barnes Rugby Club and Barnes Runners was born.

Early in 2005, posters had appeared on trees around Barnes, inviting runners interested in joining a club to contact Janet Stansfield (in the bib and hat, right) via e-mail.

The twelve who responded with their feet that cold Tuesday night included Janet, Suzi Hall, Sarah Hornby, David Cornock, Kate Elsmore, Ian Stroud and Nicola McGrath.



Janet revealed to the Bugle: “I started Barnes Runners, as I’d loved running, especially around the river and in Richmond Park, but I felt it would be safer to run in a group, especially at night. The nearest running club was in Wimbledon, so I thought, hey why not start up a community club in Barnes.

“I was sure that there would be lots of like minded people who enjoy running and also appreciate the social aspect of meeting lots of new people, who lived locally. I’m delighted that my initial efforts paid off and that the first few people who turned up on that cold, dark Tuesday evening were also instrumental in getting the club off the ground and were and some still are, the founding committee members.

“I am very proud of what I did and really enjoyed the time I spent with the club. Happy Birthday Barnes Runners.”

Five years, four chairmen and two logos later, the club now has more than 80 members and meets three times a week. Thursday nights are a recent addition. The club met at the rugby club until autumn 2007, when the Barnes Community Association kindly offered us our current home.

Since that first meeting, dozens of Barnes Runners have taken part in races from marathons to the club’s own handicap. This event, starting and finishing on the Barn Elms track on the last Saturday of the month, was conceived by Sam Allpass, who continues to organise it.

In the early days, the club was better known for being a group of friends who shared breakfast on Sundays and a post-run pint or two on Tuesdays. More recently, some members have ruined this reputation by starting to win races and prosper in their age categories.

Breakfast and a post-run pint remain integral to the Barnes Runners experience – some members (I won't name them because it's unfair on Damaris) have been known to skip the running bit and just turn up for refreshments.

The club has organised numerous social events to mark significant calendar dates – from quiz nights to karaoke evenings.

Rumour has it the committee deliberated long and hard what to do to mark the 5th anniversary and decided on something completely different. They're allegedly going for a run.

The club will officially be marking the 5th anniversary in the usual way on Tuesday, January 19 – a 7pm for 7.15pm run followed by a meal in the Sun Inn. See you there.



Five Top Races since 2005

1. The Barnes Runners Last Saturday of the Month Handicap
2. The London Marathon – spot the BR flag near Tower Bridge
3. Rotterdam Marathon 2007 – so hot they stopped it
4. The Wedding Day 7k – communion with Father Onn (below)
5. Parkrun – Free 5k runs in local parks





5ive Committee Members

1. Chairman: Rob Katschmaryk
2. Treasurer: Fredrik Johannsson
3. Social Secretary: Ben Hirsch
4. Secretary: Brent Davis
5. Webmaster: Josh Ord-Hume



The new streamlined committee – elected at last November's agm – is now up and running. Rob Katschmaryk has taken over from Sam Allpass as chairman. Check out more [here](#).



5ive Club Records since 2005

Race	Name	Location	Date	Time
Marathon	Sam Allpass	London	Apr-08	02:58:15
Half Marathon	David Allen	Wokingham, Berks.	Feb-08	01:23:40
10 miles	Sam Allpass	Bramley, Hants.	Feb-09	01:03:15
10 km	David Allen	Staines	May-09	37:41
BR Handicap	David Allen	Barnes	Apr-09	27:45





Five Top Excuses

I can't go running because.....

1. I've injured myself fly-fishing (Bruce Milburn, 2009)
2. I've cycled into the Thames (Dave Kelly, 2006)
3. I've run into a tree (David Cornock, 2006)
4. I've cycled over my dry cleaning (Dave Kelly again, 2009)
5. My name's Janet.....



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