

Summer Season Presentation Evening 2008

Bill Adcocks, one of the world's top marathon runners from yesteryear, was the guest of honour at the Corby AC awards evening, which was optional fancy dress, at the Rockingham Forest Hotel.

Bill won his first national title in 1965 and the following year took the silver medal in the Commonwealth Games in Jamaica. However, his purple patch came in the late sixties when he finished a superb fifth at the Olympic Games in Mexico in 1968. It has been said in many quarters that if the games had not been held at high altitude that Bill would have been the first Briton to win an Olympic title. This was highlighted the following year when Bill beat all those athletes that had finished ahead of him in the Olympics over the tough Marathon to Athens course. His winning time of 2.11.07 was a course record over the classic marathon course which withstood the test of time until finally broken at the 2004 Olympics by Italian Stefano Baldini. This record set by Bill was even more remarkable because over the years both European and World Championships were held over the course.

Between the Olympics and Athens Bill ran his fastest time when he won the famous Fukuoka marathon in Japan coming home in 2.10.48, which was a new European and British record and the second fastest ever time by anyone in the world.

In 1970 Bill did something that no other British athlete had ever done when he won two different national titles in the same week. After winning the Japanese national title at Otsu in 2.13.32 to become the first ever man to run four marathons in under 2.14.0, he returned home and later in the week helped his beloved Coventry Godiva Harriers to win the National 12 Stage.

Since retiring from running Bill has put so much back into the sport and can now be seen at many events track judging. He has also been secretary of his club and the Birmingham XC League, treasurer of the Midland Counties, President of the English XC Association and much, much more. Bill is an inspiration to any ambitious runners and after making a first class speech he presented the awards to the following winners.

Under-13 Female and Jumping Award: Emma MacFarlane;
Under-13 Male and Sprint Award: Jasper Larken; **Under-15 Female and Combined Events Award:** Gabby Bangay; **Under-15 Male and Throwing Award:** Sam Foster; **Under-17 Female:** Rachel Tyler; **Under-17 Male:** Harry Hollis; **Under-20 Female:**

Lauren Boyd; **Under-20 Male:** Eric Aselius; **Senior Female:** Rachel Backhouse; **Senior Male:** Sean Taylor; **Veteran Female:** Timea Latinovics; **Veteran Male:** Wilson Paterson; **Endurance Award:** Ally Fowler; **Newcomer Award:** Fraser Dalby; **Road Running Newcomer:** Neil Marley; **Athlete of the Year (Female):** Rachel Tyler; **Athlete of the Year (Male):** Sam Foster.

Peter Orpin Awards – medals for points scored in league matches.

National Young Athletes League: Under-13s – Emma MacFarlane, Courtney Bancroft-Morris, Jasper Larken; Under-15s – Beth Garvie, Garnet Walters; Under-17s – Charlotte Bowling, Harry Hollis.

National Junior League: Sarah-Anne De Kremer, Jack McShane.

Midland League: Lauren Boyd, Sean Taylor.

