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# Hooks stars excel for England and in national championship

## Martin's heading home to roost with the Stones

**Boxing**  
by Dan Mobbs

Hooks ABC star Edward Barrett secured a place in the final of the English Junior Championships with an assured unanimous victory over Joe Butler from Moneyfields ABC in Portsmouth.

The 15-year-old fighter will now line up against Lewis Coley (Second City) in the final of the London and Eastern Counties stage at the Army Reserve Centre at Grove Park on Saturday.

However, his clubmate Daniel O'Donnell was denied a final place after losing a dubious split decision over three rounds in the semi-final.

The Under-48kg 16-year-old put in another strong performance in the tournament, but the judges narrowly awarded the victory to Mark Cresse (SAR).

The defeat denies the Park Royal club two finalists but trainer Steve Newland was nonetheless delighted with the application of both of his fighters.



■ Edward Barrett (above), Daniel O'Donnell (top right) and Nathan Brown all impressed for Hooks. *Pics: Dieter Perry*

**Faultless**  
"I'm pleased with Edward's performance again as he's faultless really and he won all three rounds," said Newland. "He's picking his punches and I don't think he's lost a round in the championships yet."  
"There were a lot of really good fights. Some people went out to spoil them in tight fights, but I've

got to be pleased as he didn't let that happen to him with his boxing."  
"Danny lost a split decision and we thought he was very unlucky. It was a good fight and I thought Danny picked the cleaner punches. I said to him 'if you win the last round then you've got it', but

that's the way it goes sometimes."  
"He was very disappointed and so are we. I think we should have had two [in the final], but that's the way it is and I'm really happy to have a finalist. The icing on the cake would have been to have Danny there as well."  
Meanwhile, Hooks prodigy

Nathan Brown capped his debut England performance with victory over Steven McGrath in Ireland.  
The Under-49kg star dealt a blow to McGrath early on with a big upper-cut and the result rarely looked in doubt after that as he eased to victory.

**Conference South football**

Wealdstone have announced that Carl Martin is to return to The Vale following a five-year spell in the Football League.

The 27-year-old defender left Stones in 2009 for Crewe Alexandra and made 35 appearances for Dario Gradi's League Two side before moving on to star for Macclesfield Town three years later.

Martin finished his time at Gresty Road with a substitute appearance in Crewe's 2-0 League Two play-off final victory over Cheltenham and then went on to make 29 starts during two seasons at Macclesfield.

"I am delighted with Carl's signing because he is a strong, experienced professional who is comfortable on the ball and can play in numerous positions," said manager Gordon Bartlett.

"He has come full circle after being involved with us as a young player, coaching in our scholarship scheme while playing in our first team before he signed for Crewe.

"He is exactly the type of player and character we have been looking for as we prepare for our new challenge in the Conference South."

## Boro add young stars to squad

**Ryman League football**

Harrow Borough's preparations for the new season continued with the signings of David Taylor and Ryan Debattista on season-long deals following trials at the club.

Taylor joined Boro during the last campaign from North Greenford United, following a series of impressive performances for the Calor League club.

The versatile 19-year-old's opportunities have so far been limited for Harrow but he is expected to make a significant impression in the coming season.

Forward Ryan Debattista also committed himself to Boro after impressing during the closing weeks of last season.

The 18-year-old is a product of Watford's Harefield Academy and has been highlighted as one for the future by manager Dave Anderson.

## New recruit gets the Green light

**Ryman League football**

Hendon have announced Oliver Sprague as their first signing of the summer after he joined on a permanent deal from Southern Football League side Northwood.

The 19-year-old left-back made a solitary appearance for the Greens last season in the 3-2 home defeat to Grays Athletic while dually-registered.

And, following the departure of left-back Jack Bennett to Margate last month, manager Gary McCann moved swiftly to fill the hole left by his departure.

Sprague made 42 appearances for Northwood last season, scoring four times following a spell in Cyprus with Aspis Pyla FC, after playing academy football for Chelsea, QPR and Watford.  
"We are delighted to welcome Oliver to the squad and hope that he enjoys being part of the club," read a club statement.

## Wheelie strong show as Jane completes double at Anfield

**Cycling**

Willesden CC's Jane Swain capped a tricycle double-header over the weekend with a strong second-place finish at the Anfield 100-mile time trial.

Swain first tackled the Tricycle Association National 50 in Shropshire to finish eighth in a time of two hours 52 minutes 38 seconds, before completing the rough and rural Anfield course in 5:58.22 to claim second.

Meanwhile, Tony Lusardi finished 11th in the BC West Thames 3/4 event, ahead of his son Darryl in 14th – and in spite of picking up a puncture, Ryan Fineston finished a commendable 19th.

They then all rode in the supporting race for the Women's Grand Prix at Hillingdon the following day, with Darryl Lusardi leading the way in 11th, Fineston finishing 28th and Tony Lusardi crossing the line in 34th.

**Impressive**  
At Black Park in Buckinghamshire, Rich Cooper recorded his highest ever finish after securing an impressive second place in the three-lap Mountain Bike event organised by the West Drayton Mountain Bike Club.

On the track, Jayne Paine was not so lucky at Herne Hill, but she

made amends at Hog Hill to finish in second place.

Roger Woodford finished second in the 10-lap pursuit at Welwyn before sprinting to victory in the hare and hounds event.

The 10-mile event provided another fast-paced finish, with both Roger and nephew Connor Woodford finishing in the leading group.



■ Willesden CC rider Rich Cooper

## Barnard crowns anniversary parkrun with rapid display

**Athletics**

Brent's Sophie Barnard celebrated her 50th Gladstone parkrun event in style on Saturday, leading the ladies home in 20 minutes 20 seconds.

The Queens Park Harrier completed the undulating 5km Dollis Hill course well clear of teammates Michelle Ford in 22:40 and Heather Clarke in 22:45.

Siobhan Carleton-Green was next over the line in 23:46 ahead of junior runner Emily Godwin, who clocked 24:02. Emily Ockrim was the next junior in 33:48, with Amy Watson third in 35:05.

Johnny Suttle led the field of 104 runners overall, narrowly missing out on a personal best to stop the clock at 17 minutes 49 seconds. He was followed by Nathan Harrison in 18:06 and Ryan Yoruk in 19:15.

Alan Lawrenson (19:18), Richard Ettenfield (19:27) and Sam Sutherland (19:39) all recorded personal bests.

Thames Valley Harrier John Joseph Quirke recorded the highest ranking on the day using parkun's age and gender grading system, finishing in 20:09 in the male over-60 category. He was closely followed by fellow Harrier Kieran Lyons, who was the fastest junior on the day in 20:13,

ahead of Gabriel Barnett (20:25) and Nathan Barnard (21:38).

"When we started Gladstone parkrun our aim was to make all local residents aware that there is an opportunity to take part in a free, timed run every Saturday of the year in an informal and supportive environment," said Glen Turner, who founded the event in June 2012.



■ QPH runner Sophie Barnard (right)