

Radley Relays 2026 – Report from the Captain

Despite the mud and then persistent heavy cold rain settling in around the middle of Leg 3, the valiant OR IV of Ed Crossman (1996, G), Justin Mandeville (1988, H), Benedict Pollard (1986, H) and Chris Tufnell (1982, G) braved the Radley Relays on Tuesday 10th February. Results are here:

<https://www.racetecresults.com/results.aspx?CId=16418&RId=1003>

We finished in 38th place out of 87 complete teams – not too shabby – and we managed to finish ahead of the Senior A teams of both Winchester and Wellington!! "Eat your spikes!!"

Our Captain (me) was for once the slowest of the four, and we welcomed Ed Crossman as a debutant, ex Radley XC Captain, and our quickest runner on the day. Justin and Chris had excellent runs too, as 2nd and anchor leg respectively.



After a brief visit to Hall for some rather stodgy chips and ketchup (sausages declined), and admiring the same tables and benches which have probably been there since before the Great War, that was it for another year.

So, mark your diaries for Tuesday February 9th 2027 – you have one year to train. How about we aim to field three complete teams next year, or maybe if we're committed enough, we could get four teams out. That would be a record, I think.

Alas, this year the Dons did not field a team, and it was heartening to see the Radley A team finishing in 6th, but even they were beaten by the Radley A Inters team, in 4th. Bodes well for Radley XC.

As someone smartly pointed out to us, we get older every year, and yet every year we run against runners who are the same age as the year before. No doubt we can factor some sort of handicap scoring system in for 2027.

Hoping you're all well, and hope to see many of you next year.

Best,

Benedict Pollard

Captain

