

Congleton Harriers Race Reports.

Although runners always enjoy warm weather what they do not want are high temperatures during the running of "The Potters Arf" This year's race over 13.1 miles was run on a very hot day and it had a profound effect on competitors times. The race is one of the most highly rated in the area and has proved a popular attraction for many years. Again Congleton Harriers were well represented with a number of highly experienced members taking part, as well as some less experienced runners.

Leading the club members home was Simon Jackson in an excellent time of 1.27.25 finishing in 37th place. Jason Chappell, only a week after completing the Blackpool Marathon was next home in 1.30.39 (60) followed by Rich Benson, who knocked 11 minutes off his 2006 effort, with a time of 1.41.47 (210) Mark Morris, also recovering from his efforts at Blackpool was next home in 1.42.47 (237). Our first lady finisher was Debbie Hill, who just qualified for a silver medal with a time of 1.44.26 (266) and was 3rd LV45. Chris Tanner Tremaine, who has run in every Potters Arf, was next to finish in 1.55.14 (440) followed by a delighted Caroline Partner, who knocked 8 minutes off last years time by stopping the clock at 2.17.40 (750)

A group of runners went up to the Lake District for the weekend and whilst there took part in the "Grasmere Gallop" (the race was the real reason for the journey but they do not tell their partners that!) The race is multi-terrain over a distance of 7.3 miles and over 250 runners took part. Sandre Jackson finished 2nd LV45 with a time of 59.37 (74th overall) followed by husband, Malcolm, in 60.30 (84) and Dave Taylor 62.54 (103).

The popular Staffs Moorlands Summer Series has now started with the 1st race of ten taking place at Tittesworth. The race is over 4.5 miles and undulates around the lake with 32 Harriers taking part. (This represented 15.6% of the 205 competitors!)

Simon Harding was 1st to finish in a superb 5th place with a time of 28.49 with Pete Newham just one place behind in 29.01. James Wood was next in 30.17 (15) followed by Andy Roberts, 30.48 (23), Chris Rhodes 34.11 (57), Rich Benson 35.15 (68), Pete Doyle 35.28 (72), Steve Dunn 35.28 (73) and Seaton Kennerley 35.45 (76). Malcolm Jackson, for once beating his wife Sandre, was next to finish in 36.01 (79), followed by Gill Armstrong 36.11 (84) and 1st LV35. The rivalry between neighbours Harry Stubbs and Debbie Hill has been renewed with Stubbs prevailing in a time of 36.32 (89) with Hill one place adrift in a time of 36.37, (methinks Stubbs is a bit of a chauvinist!) Just one place behind was Jerry Comerford, making a welcome return to racing, in 36.41 (91) followed by Sandre Jackson 36.45 (94) and Dave Taylor 37.15 (103). Derek Dale 37.18 (104) was at is most competitive to hold off Paula Kennerley 37.21 (105) and 2nd LV35. Jude Newham was next home in 37.49 (111) followed closely by Liz Reeves 38.27 (120), Kim Proctor (39.08) (127), Chris Tanner-Tremaine 39.29 (129), Fran Jones 39.59 (137), Ella Lyman 41.43 (150), Judith Ceuppens 41.50 (151), Len Frodsham 43.16 (173) and Simon Wadsworth 43.22 (176). Felicity Doyle ran strongly to finish in 44.34 (178) holding off Caroline Partner 46.21 (187), Peter Brinsley 46.21 (188) and Katie Benson 47.52 (195).

Last week the 2nd race in the series was run over the Roaches in appalling weather, once the club scribe has thawed out the results will be published. Any member who has not run in the first race and would like to do so just speak to any competing member to obtain details. The races are highly recommended!

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