

# On your marks, get set...

## Dismal weather fails to deter runners at our Humph's Hilly Half Marathon



I suppose if you've already decided that the race for you is one called the Hilly Half, you're not going to be easily put off by strong winds and a persistent 'shower' that lasts several hours.

As if to prove a point, on June 16th 178 runners turned out in dismal conditions to complete the tough Humph's Hilly Half Marathon, run in memory of our old club secretary Steve Humphries. Among those taking part were several Bourton Roadrunners, all of whom performed well.

The race was started by Joan and Janet Humphries. At 6pm, the runners left Bourton on the Water and set off up 'the Steeps', which is, as the name suggests, quite steep and hits runners in the first half mile when they're barely warmed up. In dismal rain, the field powered up the incline and emerged into windy conditions at the top, where what should have been only showers set in as persistent rain for the duration.

Early leader Anthony Bailey of Cheltenham

club Almost Athletes was closely tracked by our Club President Dennis Walmsley (both pictured right) and they held these positions for the whole race, Anthony eventually pulling away to finish in 1:17:27 and Dennis in 1:18:18 to claim the first Vet 45 prize. Third man in was David Tame of Hook Norton Harriers and 4th Andy Gore of Cheltenham Harriers. First lady for the 2nd year running and 17th overall was Bourton Roadrunner Shona Crombie-Hicks in 1:25:18, and second lady Carolyn Wilkinson of Spa Striders. Shona had a race-long battle with fellow club member Andy Chapple - a battle which in the end Andy won by 16 seconds. It is a testament to the high quality of the veteran runners that with an overall place of 16th and a finish time of 1:25:02 Andy was still only the 8th MV45 to cross the line.

Other Bourton results were: Darren Long 1:28:00, Tony Goodwill 1:28:49, Mike Hobbs 1:31:17, Claire Harrison 1:38:58 (above wearing 149), Chris Lomax, in his first half marathon, 1:47:59, and Roger Woodley in 1:52:46.



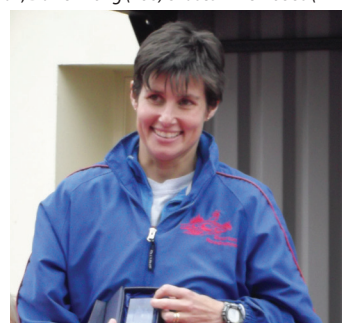
Thanks go to our sponsors Hacklings Transport, and to SciMX Nutrition, Alison Claire Natural Beauty & Metabolics Ltd for the goody bags. The race could never happen without all the marshals who stayed out in the rain, the results team and St John Ambulance so a huge thank you to them all too, and well done race organiser Gill Carrick for pulling it all together.



L-R: Andy Chapple, Shona Crombie-Hicks, Roger Woodley, Tony Goodwill, Chris Lomax, Darren Long (186) chases Mike Hobbs (211).

## Lucy Walmsley is Ladies British Masters Champion

Months of hard training and plenty of hill work paid off for Lucy, who won gold in great style with a superb run at the Tenby Marathon on June 10th. Leading lady from the start in one of the toughest marathons in the country, Lucy made her intentions clear, in spite of suffering from a cold, as she powered around the daunting course in 3:11:50 to finish a massive 13 minutes ahead of her nearest female rival and in 12th place overall. This was the 2nd running of the Tenby event, which was won last year by Lucy's husband Dennis and this year was named as the venue for the British Marathon Masters Championships - a competition for Veteran runners (35 and over). This year's race proved so demanding that only 6 people finished in under 3 hours.



**Bourton Roadrunners**

Report by Jo Lewis

If you'd like to join us we run at 7pm (2-3 miles) and 7.30pm (6-8 miles) every Tuesday and Thursday evening - all abilities are welcome. Please contact Lynn Hudson on 01242 820920 for further details.