



Bourton Roadrunners
Bourton-on-the-Water, Cheltenham, Glos

The Humph's Hilly Half Marathon Race Report – 27th June 2009.

The Humph's Hilly Half usually seems to bring out the hot weather and this year was no exception, which made what is already a tough race, as its name suggests, even more arduous.

Both the men and ladies races were won by last year's champions, Gary Payne and Steph Lane in times of 1:16:03 and 1:29:13.

Payne was tucked into the group of Stephen Price from UK Netrunner 1:16:30 and Bourton's Dennis Walmsley 1:17:29, until half way, at which time he pulled away, with Price attempting to go with him, but unable to maintain the Vet 50s strong pace and having also to drop away in the last few miles.

Steph Lane opened a convincing lead from the start, finishing almost 2 minutes ahead of 2nd place Lorraine Ryan from Gloucester AC with a time of 1:31:09, after overtaking Vicky Cotter from Wimbledon Windmilers in the 2nd half of the race, with Cotter finishing 3rd in 1:34:08.

Mike Smith of Bourton did well for 4th and 2nd Vet 40, considering his recent lack of training in 1:20:08, followed by Lee Smith of Gloucester AC in 1:21:12 and Steve Marshall of Stratford just a minute behind in 1:22:16.

With an overall placing of 10th, Dave Rantell of Cheltenham Harriers took 5th Senior Man, the others taking the higher prizes in the Veteran Categories, such as unattached Paul Clack 1:24:10 3rd Vet 40 and Jeremy Mower 4th Vet 40 in 1:25:04.

Other prize results were: 1st Vet 45 David Headon, Les Croupier 1:25:16; 1st Vet 50 Michael Williams, Kennilworth Runners 1:32:25; 2nd Vet 50 Donald Maclaren, St. Austell Running Club 1:33:47; 1st Vet 55 Steve Colbourne, Sphinx AC 1:34:38; 1st Vet 60 Arthur Johns, Poole Runners 1:35:26; 1st Vet 70 Richard Phillips, Cheltenham Harriers 2:10:52.

Special mention should be made of the excellent run by Vet 65 Martin Ford of Cheltenham Harriers for his fantastic time of 1:29:31 to win that category.

The winning men's team were Bourton, consisting of Dennis Walmsley, Mike Smith and Steve Edwards.

After the top 3 ladies, results were 1st LV35 Kate Wright, Stratford AC 1.33.23, 2nd LV35 Ursula Schulz, Headington RR 1.35.51; Trudy Compton, Cirencester AC 1.38.30; 1st LV40 Alison Bagnall, Stratford AC 1:37:39; 1st LV45 Alison Rosequerie, Rugby & Northampton 1:43:25; 2nd LV45 Maria Liviero, Malvern Joggers 1:45:56; 1st LV50 Kate Grose U/A 1:42:40, 1st LV55 Carol Clarke, Cirencester AC 1:53:03, 1st LV60 Liza Darroch, Cirencester 2:05:34 and 1st LV65 Sheila Taylor, Rugby & Northampton 2:21:38.

Gloucester AC won the Ladies Team, comprising Lorraine Ryan, Maxine Gray and Michelle Stark.

Bourton Roadrunners own finishers, not in the prizes above, were Steve Edwards 11th in 1:25:54, Ewen Smith 1:29:31, Justin Launchbury 1:41:08, Ian Shoemark 1:41:38, Norm Lane 1:45:15, Andy McCoombs 1:47:39, Shirley Creed 1:53:47, Lynn Hudson 1:59:43, Susan Hunt 2:03:42, Julia Rutherford (after starting late!) 2:05:59, Gill Carrick 2:06:39, Chris Bence 2:07:52.