

Derwentwater 10
Sunday 1 November 2009
Report by Kay Farrow of Beverley Athletic Club



Torrential rain in the Lake District last weekend did not dampen the spirits of Beverley AC runners who competed in the Derwentwater 10 mile road race.

The views were spectacular, the autumn colours of the landscape magnificent and the cascades of water tumbling down the hillsides deafening. Swollen rivers were flowing ferociously and water was streaming across the road. The route was flooded with several inches of water in numerous places and runners splashed through in scenes reminiscent of the opening shots of Chariots of Fire. Everybody got absolutely drenched!

Despite the conditions new personal best times for this distance were set by Andy Johnson (1:09:04) and Lucy Stamford (1:16:04).

Beverley ladies continued their excellent form and finished fourth in the team contest against strong local competition. Lucy Stamford was the first Beverley lady to finish and Helen Storr and Debs Brant made up the team.

First Beverley man to finish was new member Darren Rodmell in a time very close to his personal best. Mike Atkins, making a rare appearance in a road race, beat his target time by five minutes.

Dianne Coleman and Debs Brant completed their first 10 mile race in very respectable times. They will be aiming to run even faster in the much flatter Thirsk 10 miler at the end of November.

A large breakfast at the youth hostel sustained Sarah Tock and Ivor Roberts throughout the race and they finished faster than expected in 1 hour 47 minutes

This was the first time Beverley runners had competed in this event and despite the heavy rain most of them thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Trip organiser Pete McNally had promised a unique race and it certainly was. The jumbo fridge magnet presented to all runners at the finish made it all worthwhile!

Thanks go to Lucas Meagor for driving the minibus and getting members home safely in poor driving conditions.

Andi Jones of Salford Harriers won the race in 51.48 - three minutes ahead of his nearest rival. First lady to finish was Rebecca Robinson of Kendal AC in 59.09.

Beverley finishers: Darren Rodmell 1:06:56; Andy Johnson 1:09:04; Lucy Stamford 1:16:04; Fraser Gregory 1:18:56; Lucas Meagor 1:19:11; Brian Richardson 1:19:50; Helen Storr 1:20:18; Debs Brant 1:22:39; Moira Armstrong 1:23:14; Jackie Wright 1:23:44; Mike Atkins 1.25.08; Dianne Coleman 1:28:03; Steve Hadley 1:28:45; Amanda Ritchie 1:28:53; Pam Atkins 1:35:02; Kay Farrow 1:35:59; Pete McNally 1:39:09; Frank Harrison 1:40:00; Jacqui Dickinson 1:44:01; John Boardley 1:45:48; Ivor Roberts 1:47:25; Sarah Tock 1:47:26.

Photos:

Beverley AC sheltering from the rain at the start of the race.