

Wharfedale Marathon, Half Marathon and Ruggers Ramble
Saturday 5 June 2010
Report by Moira Armstrong of Beverley Athletic Club



On Saturday 5 June, 16 Beverley AC athletes took part in the challenging Wharfedale half and full marathons, and the Ruggers Ramble which follows the half marathon route.

Conditions were testing, both in terms of terrain, which included over 2530 feet of ascent, and the temperatures, which reached the high 20s. The routes started from Threshfield and followed well established footpaths including the Dales Way, the Monk Road and Mastiles Lane using road, bridle-paths and grassy pasture tracks.

In the marathon, Steve Jackson came an impressive third achieving a personal best of 3 hours 32 and taking 5 minutes off last year's time. Lucy Stamford continues to show her fitness, finishing as sixth lady (4:22) with running partner Darren Rodmell. Other club members who completed the full marathon were Brian Richardson (5:33) and Tony Beck (5:53). Unfortunately Beck added 4 miles to the route by taking a wrong turn. Pete McNally and Frank Harrison encouraged Jacqui Dickinson in her first off-road marathon. She was thrilled with her achievement. The trio finished together in 7.15.

Four runners opted for the equally challenging half marathon with Andy Johnson finishing in a commendable 26th place in 1:56 followed by Moira Armstrong in 2:29. Dianne Coleman (2:38), competing in her first off-road half marathon, enjoyed the challenge and was supported by experienced Helen Storr (2:38).

Mike and Dave Blamires completed Ruggers Ramble in 4 hours and were followed by John and Sylvia Boardley in 4 hours 30.

There were 75 finishers in the marathon which was won by Andrew Cottier in 3:07. The first lady to finish was Rachel Hill in 3:51. 193 people completed the half marathon which was won by Bob Addey in 1:34. The first lady was Holly Williams in 1:50.