

Yorkshire Wolds Half Marathon
Saturday 18 July 2009
Report by Kay Farrow of Beverley Athletic Club

Last Saturday a small group of determined runners from Beverley Athletic Club tackled the challenging Yorkshire Wolds Half Marathon at Bishop Wilton near Pocklington. The course is particularly demanding with a long drawn out hill between 3 and 6½ miles and another climb between 11 and 12½ miles.

Although the race was designated as a handicap race for Beverley AC only 12 members responded to the challenge. Most of them had never competed in this race before but the club away night in Pocklington at the beginning of the month had introduced them to the hilly terrain in the area.

Aubrey Morrell was the first Beverley man to finish and Julie Donald was the first Beverley lady.

Carole Rimmington and Martin Sellers have been regular competitors in this race since 2002. They usually run together and cross the finishing line together. Although they did not record their fastest times this year they enjoyed the challenge and proved that they still have the stamina to tackle the hills.

Pete McNally, another veteran competitor at Bishop Wilton, found the hills tougher than he remembered but his unwavering determination enabled him to complete the course in a very respectable time.

There were no prizes or personal bests for the Beverley runners but a strong sense of satisfaction and achievement. There was also a real buzz after climbing the last hill and then charging down the steep descent to the finish. Well done to them all!

The race was won by Steve Bateson of East Hull Harriers in 73.34 and the first lady to finish was Victoria Graves of City of York who crossed the line in 85.12.

Beverley AC finishers: Aubrey Morrell 86.56; Oliver Johnston 92.04; Julie Donald 113.50; Mike Abbotts 122.47; Andy Grainger 123.48; Angela Collins 125.43; Carole Rimmington 132.46; Martin Sellers 132.46; Jacqui Dickinson 141.10; Pete McNally 142.23.