

Run to the hills

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Three events which certainly weren't for the faint-hearted attracted Weston Athletic Club members to don their trainers and head for the hills on Sunday.

First up, the first ever Portishead Half Marathon proved no match for Chris Old who enjoyed yet another superb race finishing third overall in 1:17:35, and first in his category. Amanda Hunter was the first WAC female to cross the line, finishing the challenging course in 1:41:22. She was also 'Queen of the Hill' in her category.

At the opposite end of the Somerset coast, there was a good showing from WAC in the annual Exmoor Stagger - a 15.1 mile race run over steep and varied terrain with a total ascent of 3,627ft. First club member over the line was David Stock in 2:18:19, followed closely by Guy Bradford in 2:18:31. Andy Kelsey was next in 2:31:57. Cheryl Valentine finished in 2:52:15, Ruth Green in 3:22:50 and Sarah Styles in 3:33:27. Special mention must also go to Kevin Hudson who ran the race for the tenth year in a row.

Finally, hats off to Dominic Taylor-Jones who ran his first ever marathon in the Dartmoor Vale event and finished second overall, cracking the sub-three-hour barrier in 2:59:37. This time places him firmly at the top of the club's leaderboard for 2013 marathon times.

The club's next races take place tonight (Thursday October 24) on the prom. The free children's one mile race starts at 6.45pm, followed by the main five mile race at 7.30. Runners can enter on the night at the race HQ at the Pavilion Bar, Knightstone Road, and find out more at www.westonac.co.uk.

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