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Endless Summers

A team of 55 runners from Weston Athletic Club covered the 13.1 miles of this year's Bristol Half Marathon on Sunday in unseasonably hot and sunny conditions. Kieron Summers continued his winning streak for club placings and earned himself yet another personal best, finishing in 1:19:22 and 78th overall. Hot on his heels came David Bourne just 12 seconds later with a new personal best, and David Stock took third club spot in 1:22:36.

The club's women ran strong with Teresa King crossing the line in 1:38:07. There was a close finish for second and third with Niki Fulstow just pipping Cheryl Valentine at the post by two seconds with 1:45:29 on the clock.

The race provided plenty of opportunity for club members to improve on their previous best times for the distance. Adrian Noble, Steve Kibblewhite, Andy Chadburn, Andrew Sandiford, Leighton Smith, Antony Green, Phil Mellor, Wilf Huxtable, Edel Robbins, Amanda Hunter, Rachel Smith, Peter Hughes, Elaine Eldridge, Pete Bartlett, Carole Craddock, Gary Iles, Julie Shergold, Kev Howells, Mandy Nash, Kath Amor, Kirstie Mangham, Sue Collard, and Shaleen Summers all ran their fastest half marathons.

The race came just three days after the first of the club's new season of five mile prom runs on Weston's seafront which saw 285 runners sweat it out in humid conditions. Kieron Summers yet again proved his current run of top form with a finish time of 29:46, closely followed by David Stock in 30:04 and Nick Briffitt in 30:11.

The times were just as tight for the first three club females with Michelle Fryer taking first in 36:49, closely followed by Niki Fulstow just five seconds later, and Nia Davies in 37:13.

Club members also took on the Langport Sprint Distance Triathlon at the weekend which comprises a 400m swim, a 22.5k bike ride and a 5k run. Tracy Lewis finished first for the club in 1:19:51, closely followed by Kira Thorpe who took first spot for the club's females in 1:20:46. Nick Cook took second men's spot in 1:26:02, and Debbie Chadburn finished second for the women in 1:37:33. Mark Gray, competing in his first triathlon, took third for the men in 1:43:14.

ENDS

Note to editors:

Two pictures supplied - one showing club runners before the start of the Bristol Half Marathon and the other showing runners after the race.