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### **Brent gives it some Welly**

A team of 17 from Weston Athletic Club travelled down the M5 on Sunday to take on the Wellington Monument race. The 10k event features a steep climb from the village of Hemyock to the top of the hill on which the monument stands. Racing conditions were perfect as dense fog lifted to make way for still and sunny conditions.

Richard Brent was the quickest from the club on the day, and completed the course in 41.16. Rob Furlong followed in 41.42, and Steve Kibblewhite 20 seconds later in 42.02. Niki Fulstow was the fastest club female and crossed the line in 50.42. Jo Coveney took second club spot in 53.29 and Vanessa Andrews third in 1.00.24.

Every finisher was rewarded with a cup of mulled wine, a warm mince pie and a bottle of local cider.

Meanwhile, on the south coast, three club members ran in the Portsmouth Coastal Waterside Marathon – a fast, flat, multi-terrain course, out and back around Langstone Harbour. Phil Richards was the first Weston runner to complete the 26.2 miles in 3.25.22, placing her fourth overall in her category, and eighth out of all female finishers. Marc Bostock followed in 3.33.06, and, despite his injury worries, Josh Harris still managed to complete the race in 3.40.19.

Finally, closest to home, a group from Weston donned red suits and battled their way up and down Brean Down in dense fog in the 5k or 10k Santa Scramble event. In the 5k, Kathy Fisher was the first to cross the line in 42.32. Kate Rossiter and Marian Barber followed close behind in 42.35 and 42.52, both winning their age categories in the process. In the 10k event, Chantelle Thompson was the first Weston runner to complete the course in 1.03.34, followed by Lorna Mallin in 1.15.06.

The club's next 10k race takes place on New Year's Day in Kewstoke. "The Hangover" follows an on-road course around Kewstoke and Sand Bay and is the perfect antidote to the excesses of the night before. Runners can enter online at [www.westonac.co.uk/hangover](http://www.westonac.co.uk/hangover) by Christmas Eve or on the day at Kewstoke Village Hall.

ENDS

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Follow the club on Twitter @Weston\_AC and on Facebook /westonathleticclub