



Date: 24 June 2018

Release: immediate

Bumper bonus at Beacon Batch

This year's Beacon Batch fell race proved the most popular yet, with 137 runners lining up to take on the five country miles route climbing 1,000 feet to the highest point on the Mendips. Almost half of the runners were from Weston Athletic Club, many having been developing their hill running skills with the club's trail section.

No stranger to the hills, the club's own Chris McMillan led from the start, and developed an unassailable lead of over two minutes throughout the course of the race. Chris crossed the line in 34.54. He was joined by three fellow club members in the top ten with Pete Clarke finishing fourth overall in 38.42, Will Fuller finishing in seventh place, and first in his category, in 39.53, and Rob Furlong in tenth position in 40.42.

Niki Fulstow proved she's back on form by finishing first among the club's women in 47.35. She was followed two minutes later by Yvonne Rogers in 49.47 and Sarah Hind in 51.53.

The only club championship race in the past week was the Torbay Half Marathon which follows two laps of an out and back course between Paignton and Torquay, with two hills along the way. The soaring temperatures made for tricky conditions, but Weston's runners still returned some fantastic results. Rob Furlong was the first from the club to finish in 1.26.35, placing him fourth overall in his age category. There was little to separate second and third club spot with Marc Whiting finishing in 1.33.40, and Susan Duncan just ten seconds behind him in 1.33.50. Susan also finished second overall in her category.

The most impressive performance of the morning must surely have been Carol O'Leary's. As if finishing second overall in her category in 1.56.14 wasn't a huge achievement in its own right, Carol managed this having run 29 miles the day before at the Giant's Head Marathon in Dorset. Maria Davidson was the club's third female finisher, still under two hours in 1.57.58.

Entry opens on Sunday 1 July for the 2018 Christmas Cracker 10k race on Weston's beach and seafront. This year's race takes place on Sunday 9 December at 11am. The main race will be preceded by a junior 2k version on the beach at 10am. For more information visit www.westonac.co.uk/christmascracker.

ENDS

For more information and photos contact vanessa.andrews@westonac.co.uk
Follow the club on Twitter @Weston_AC and on Facebook /westonathleticclub