



Date: 6 May 2019
Release: immediate

Three under three at Newport

Sunday was a successful day for the dozen Weston Athletic Club members heading over the bridge for the Newport marathon. Racing conditions were good for long distance with a cool temperature and only light winds, and eight of the club's members achieved their best marathon times.

First to finish from the club was Darren Stacey in 2.54.19. Darren has been troubled by injury over the past year or more, but has worked hard to regain his fitness and was rewarded for all his efforts with the coveted sub-three hour time. Rob Furlong and Pete Clark-Yalland also finished inside three hours in 2.57.37 and 2.59.22 respectively. Matt Wheeler and Marc Whiting finished seconds apart in just over 3.10 and both joined the first three club finishers in qualifying for good for age entry for next year's London Marathon. There could be quite a crowd of yellow vests in the capital next April if all the club's qualifiers remember to enter.

Shaleen Summers ran a strong race, and put recent training frustrations behind her, to finish her second fastest marathon in 4.34.26. Carol Brent, running the distance for the first time, finished in 4.48.15 while Trish Abbotts knocked over 40 minutes off her previous time, crossing the line in 6.08.43.

Meanwhile, 27 of the club's members took on the Bristol 10k as part of the club's road running championship. Finishing 22nd overall, out of a field of over 12,000 runners, was Will Fuller is a new best time of 33.49 making him the third fastest at the distance among current members. Toby Norman followed in 37.14 with Ian Connock chasing his tail in 37.47.

Nia Davies was the first of the club's women to finish with her second-fastest 10k time of 43.18. The club's 'pocket rocket' Julie Monaghan lived up to her nickname, also running her second fastest 10k in 53.16. Madeline Cook took third club spot in 54.07.

The final races in the current Weston prom run series take place on Thursday 25 April. The main five mile race at 7.30pm is preceded by the junior one mile race at 6.45pm. Runners can enter online at www.westonac.co.uk/promrun or in person at the Bay Cafe at the Tropicana.

Entry is also now open for the club's next off-road race - the five mile Beacon Batch fell race which takes place on Tuesday 18 June at 7.30pm. More information at www.westonac.co.uk/beaconbatch.

ENDS

For more information and photos contact vanessa.andrews@westonac.co.uk
Follow the club on Facebook [/westonathleticclub](https://www.facebook.com/westonathleticclub)