

Mendip Muddle 11th Oct 2009 Race Report

The Mendip Muddle is Weston AC's toughest race yet is arguably the most enjoyable. Enjoyable that is if you don't mind over 1400ft of climb over the 12.6 mile course. Held in the glorious and spectacular setting of the Mendip Hills near Weston-super-Mare, the Muddle attracts a hardy bunch of runners who appreciate the dramatic views from the highest point of the race, at Beacon Batch. The weather gods were firmly against us this year with heavy rain falling throughout the race and providing such a contrast to the summer like conditions from 2008. Despite the rain, the marshals and race volunteers kept their spirits high and cheered on the runners throughout the course.

The poor weather meant that the hills felt a bit steeper than usual (if that is possible!) and the ground that extra bit muddy but despite that, the finishing times were very quick. First across the finish line was Richard Phillips (Senior Male – Serpentine Running Club) in 1h 20m 19s, with Hugh Aggleton (Senior Male - Mynyddwyr De Cymru) in 1h 24m 20s and Matt Marshall (Senior Male – Chippenham Harriers) in 1h 25m 12s following closely behind. For the ladies, first home, and in a new course record, was Helen Fines (Senior Female – Calder Valley Fell Runners) in 1h 30m 08s, with Robyn Golding (Senior Female – Westbury Harriers) in 1h 32m 41s and Clare Prosser (Senior Female – Wells City Harriers) in 1h 36m 30s making up the other major placings.

Thanks to the bumper entry of 314 entrants and generous sponsorship of the race, we were once again able to donate a significant sum to the Wrington Vale branch of the RNLI. A big thank you to the Weston AC and RNLI marshals and volunteers who gave up their time to make sure the runners got around safely and for also giving them generous encouragement along the route.

A note for your diary, next year's Muddle will take place on October 10th 2010. See you there! Full race results and Muddle details can be found at www.westonac.co.uk/mendipmuddle

RACE RESULTS & PRIZE WINNERS – MENDIP MUDDLE – 11th OCTOBER 2009				
Individuals – Men – Overall				
Category Position	Race Position	Name	Club	Time
1	1	Richard Phillips	Serpentine	1:20:19
2	2	Hugh Aggleton	Mynyddwyr de Cymru	1:24:20
3	3	Matt Marshal	Chippenham Harriers	1:25:12
4	4	Simon Everington	Unattached	1:25:46
1	5	Richard Scholfield	Chippenham Harriers	1:29:38
5	7	John Rance	Unattached	1:30:11

Individuals – Women – Overall				
Category Position	Race Position	Name	Club	Time
1	6	Helen Fines	Calder Valley Runners	1:30:08
2	14	Robyn Golding	Westbury Harriers	1:32:41
3	27	Clare Prosser	Wells City Harriers	1:36:30
4	33	Pippa Stephens	Weston AC	1:37:48
5	47	Kate Britten	Clevedon AC	1:41:05
6	59	Meggie Bichard	Unattached	1:43:38

Senior Male				
Category Position	Race Position	Name	Club	Time
1	1	Richard Phillips	Serpentine	1:20:19
2	2	Hugh Aggleton	Mynyddwyr de Cymru	1:24:20
3	3	Matt Marshal	Chippenham Harriers	1:25:12
4	4	Simon Everington	Unattached	1:25:46

Senior Female				
Category Position	Race Position	Name	Club	Time
1	6	Helen Fines	Calder Valley Runners	1:30:08
2	14	Robyn Golding	Westbury Harriers	1:32:41
3	27	Clare Prosser	Wells City Harriers	1:36:30
4	33	Pippa Stephens	Weston AC	1:37:48

Male Vet 40				
Category Position	Race Position	Name	Club	Time
1	5	Richard Scholfield	Chippenham Harriers	1:29:38
2	10	Patrick Foley	Portishead RC	1:30:58
3	11	Stuart Patrick	Unattached	1:31:45
4	12	Nick Baldwin	Fire Service Sports	1:31:53

Female Vet 40				
Category Position	Race Position	Name	Club	Time
1	85	Nicki Morgan	Chepstow Harriers	1:50:32
2	114	Emma Parfit	Nailsea Runners	1:53:52
3	116	Mandy Thorpe	Chippenham Harriers	1:53:54
4	139	Kay Middleton	Avon Valley Runners	1:58:45

Male Vet 50				
Category Position	Race Position	Name	Club	Time
1	8	Paul Dodd	Chippenham Harriers	1:30:34
2	19	Peter Fews	Unattached	1:34:07
3	34	Charles Daniel	GWR	1:38:04

Female Vet 50				
Category Position	Race Position	Name	Club	Time
1	143	Moira Martin	Unattached	2:00:29
2	153	Lindsey Dow	Team Bath	2:02:00
3	156	Sue MacGregor	Avon Valley Runners	2:02:20

Male Vet 60				
Category Position	Race Position	Name	Club	Time
1	87	Jim White	Weston AC	1:51:05
2	95	Mike Adams	Bristol & West AC	1:51:45

Female Vet 60				
Category Position	Race Position	Name	Club	Time
1	192	Hilary O'Shea	Abingdon	2:09:48
2	205	Gill Constable	Cheddar Running Club	2:14:49