

## NEW YEAR RACES

A dozen local runners got off to an early start in the New Year with the traditional four mile, Portobello Promathon race along the sea front on the first day. First HELP athlete home from the 300 entrants was Gavin Lightwood (23min37sec) in 43<sup>rd</sup> place, 33 places in front of Alan Proudfoot (25:13) then followed by a group in the red and white vests around the 26min mark. A race within a race was fought out between club mates and Frank McPartland battled through and was followed in quick succession by Brian Carr, Findlay Smith, Fred McCain and Sandy Wallace. Further down the field but still in the first half, Paddy McDonald (27:39) had his usual steady run and was followed by Eric Foster (29:35) and Kerry Gordon (31:37). The Haddington club's ladies were led home by Port Seton's Maggie Shea (33:27) while Claire Simpson (35:38) completed the local representation.

The following day, in the Borders, Hill running champion Brian Marshall missed his previous year's win by one place at the Greenmantle Dash at Broughton. The short 2 mile race with a 650ft climb is a traditional event designed to blow away the cobwebs and is competed for by two hundred runners and attracts seasoned athletes and local joggers