

FEBRUARY RACES

Local runners from HELP travelled the short distance to compete in the Lasswade 10 mile road race last weekend. 350 athletes braved the bitter wind to run the hilly course via Roslin Glen, Auchendinny, Rosewell and back to Lasswade. Moray Anderson from Corstorphine led the pack home in an incredible 53mins, 10mins in front of first county runner Gavin Lightwood in 40th place. Alan Proudfoot (65mins) and Sandy Wallace (67mins) completed the scoring team to be placed 8th in the club competition. Eric Foster and George Armstrong came in together in 80mins to complete the representation for the Pacemakers.

The previous week Peebles was the venue for the second last of the Eastern Borders Cross Country series of races. Hill runner Brian Marshall made it four wins from four attempts and has secured the series overall title without having to take part in the final race at Norham in a couple of weeks. This success comes after a very credible 6th place in the Carnethy Hill Race at the beginning of last month. The first major hill race of the year attracts 500 competitors and is usually dominated by fell runners from south of the border which underlines the achievement of the local farmer.

The Peebles course along the banks of the River Tweed and through the fields and woods next to the town attracted 90 athletes. Gavin Lightwood (15th) and Tom Harley (29th) were the better of the local runners completing the four and half mile route in under 30mins. Sandy Wallace (36th) does not have to take part in the last race either because he has maximum points in the over 55year age group and is guaranteed a trophy. Brian Carr (46th) and George Armstrong (66th) made up the Help contingent.

Dunbar Running Club also represented local interests with Ian Rowland (6th) giving the best performance of the day with Stuart Hay (27th), Richard Taylor (31st), Anne Hay (59th) and Kevin Smith (77th) also taking part. However their star performance of the day came in the junior girls race which was won again giving Lauren Peffers her maximum points in the series and assuring her of the series title.