

## HADDINGTON HALF MARATHON (Report of 14 August 2005)

Almost two hundred road runners took part in the Asics Haddington Half Marathon, at the weekend, organised by HELP, on a warm, blustery day for the route around the country roads south of the town. Dunbar Running Club was the more successful of the local teams with Ian Sills (80min 59sec) in 7<sup>th</sup> place and Anne Hay (95:42) in the same position in the woman's race, picking up the prizes for being the first county runners home. Club mates Ian Rowland (83:02) in 12<sup>th</sup> place and Stuart Hay (88:08) completed their representation.

First to cross the line overall was Dave Wright (72:24) from the Hunters Bog Trotters who also led his club to the team prize with the support of Jim Thyne in 5<sup>th</sup> place and Neil Thomas 24 places further down. James Snodgrass (74:23) from Kilbarchan AAC picked up the silver prize while veteran John Duffy (89:24) was a further mile behind at the end. Age category prizes are awarded at all road races nowadays and the over 50 award was picked up by Martin Ryan (82:22) from Perth RR in 11<sup>th</sup> place, 15 in front of over 60, Robin Scott (88:05) from Kilbarchan AAC.

Scottish international marathon runner Trudi Thomson (81:28) from Petreavie AAC was a runaway winner in the ladies race with only eight males managing to beat her. Hill runners Megan Clark (85:46) from Hunters Bog Trotters and Kate Jenkins (87:30) from Carnethy HR came in quick succession. Although the winner was in the veteran category the actual prize fell to the unattached Alison Harvey (94:55) in 6<sup>th</sup> place. Portobello took the team prize through the efforts of Karen Young, Shelagh McLeish and Sally Scott.

The host club needed organisational help, so did not field many athletes. First back was Findlay Smith (92:11) in 41<sup>st</sup> place, three in front of Eddie Balfour (92:29) with Roger Green (94:49) a few places back. New member Karen Meikle (95:53) in eighth place in the ladies competition was well ahead of club mates Raymond Keenan (100:57), Malcolm Quinn (108:06), Ray Harris (108:22), Janette Keenan (111:24) and Maggie Shea (114:47).

In his first race over the thirteen mile distance, Foppe Jellema (119:07) expressed satisfaction at finishing the course while Marie Cosgrove (122:24) had her usual steady run.

Musselburgh AC completed the local representation with Steve Pattison (96:04) in 72<sup>nd</sup> position and Jude Boulton (106:10), Mary Innes (111:40) and Donald Deans (112:12) all further down the field.