Brough Park Running Club weekly event. (07/01/2017)

As anticipated there were a few newbie’s at the first event of 2017, and others who returned after a long period away; let’s hope they, and others, stay the distance this time.

The conditions were a little hazy and wet-to-muddy in places, as usual there were mixed fortunes for many who took part: the impressive Karl Birch dropped back a minute from his last weeks’ PB, whereas Suzie Noble almost passed him on the line to knock three seconds off hers to finish in 26.47; Sara Walmsley and Liz Dentith thought they’d crossed the 5K line in a joint 23.39, only to find they’d finished a lap too early; being keen enough to retrace their steps and continue to record 34.56 and 35.06; Jan Percival, Claire Williamson, Dave Hinton and Dawn Brown were also pegged back from previous efforts to record 30.02, 30.40, 34.08 and 35.44; with Charlotte Statham taking advantage of a solo run to clock 27.28; Paul Chauveau gained a PB of seven seconds to record 27.44; John Lagan and Amanda Hampson forged out improved times of 28.14 and 34.43.

The Bower family returned with mother Kathy being piped on the line by seven year old Alfie in 46.49; George (10) was a second ahead of father Christopher in 39.33.

Some of the newbie’s: the Goulding quartet set off with good intentions but ended at different stages; Angela escorted Lena-May to a 1.5K finish in 10.58 with father Jon a stride behind Tommy’s 14.20 in the 2.2K; the Render duo of father Howard and five year old Florence eased their way around the 2.2K in 19.51.

The 3.6K had two entrants: twelve years old Louise Hackett moved up from the shorter distance to gain an 18.52 finish with new entrant, v55 Derek Perry clocking 24.44.

Twenty one seconds separated 24.41 and Paul Goldstraw’s 25.02, the latter trying to pull back Debbie Shires’ lead to clock a four second improvement on last week and finishing the same behind Debbie; Tony Williamson stretched his legs a little to gain almost two minutes over his last outing.

At the head of the pack Steve Massey set a new PB by seven seconds to finish in 21.28 as he tried to make up the ground on Jack Hancock who crossed the line and gained a PB of thirty nine seconds in 21.19. Martin Pigott and Dan Knowles were off their best, the former by just thirteen seconds and the latter forty, as they finished in 23.06 and 23.25, with Mark Pickford clocking 24.41 at his first attempt.

Ten year old Sienna Phillips wasn’t at her best, completing the 2.2K in 11.05, which was almost two minutes slower than her junior 2.2K best – perhaps the earlier start not to her liking; Daisy Williamson was only thirteen seconds off her best, being pulled along by Sienna to a 11.58 time.

Joshua Eames was in a buoyant mood as he surged around to record 13.33 and a PB of fifty four seconds, with Cousin James Burgess only twenty three seconds ahead; five year olds: Connie Statham and Laurie Hinton took over Joshua’s mantle and ambled around in ‘room for improvement’ time of 18.23.

The junior run saw Debbie Shires taking part for the second run of the day to escort Eddie (7) to a 19.00 minute finish; an event that saw the Hopkinson duo of Luke (9) and Esme (7) being separated by the 12.40 finish of Eden Pigott (7) to record 11.09 and 14.28 times; with the remaining Shires sibling, Benjamin, clocking 14.32.

Thanks to Kathryn Smith, Rachel Massey and Sam Goldstraw for timekeeping.

B. (An ear to the ground and an eye on the times)