08.05.21 Event Report

The May-day that the rain came down, all around, and wet the ground, soaking all the keen members that attended the latest C25K to the core.

Despite the cold atmosphere and 100% precipitation between 8 and 10 am, after which it decided to stop for a short while, 33 participants were enjoying every minute of the latest event.

Some of those, such as Paul Lockett, Julie and Wayne Pettitt are using the full distance as part of a fitness campaign to enable them to move on to longer distanced events throughout the summer.

Meanwhile, Jason Burgess joined in after the start to add to his early morning 4-mile stint, and Laura Goldstraw was in attendance to encourage others before her Altrincham Half Marathon the following day.

Harry Bond was the only one to arrive early and completed a long warm-up, before leading the entrants by an extending margin over the three laps of the 5K, to finish almost a two-score ahead in 19.16; the majority of others dashing to the start line at the last minute.

It was never going to be a day to set records; especially due to the debris underfoot, slippery surfaces and a soggy bottom - in relation to traversing the grassed area of the valley.

Five-year-old Freddie Hales and father, Matthew followed the mass around at a very leisurely pace, with only Pollyanna (7), mother, Emily White and Jamie Carney alongside Izabella (6) on their tail - not forgetting Foxy-the-Fox tucked snuggly beneath the youngster’s top.

The latter pair completing the 1.6K in 10.13; the middle duo in a slightly slower 17.33 for the 2.3K, and the former recording 24.44 over the 3.6K, while his father covered another lap in an overall time of 31.23, followed by a score later by Nathan Birch.

Brandon Umney (7) Returned for his second event; finding his way around the 2.3K, almost unaided, to finish a handful of seconds quicker than last week in 13.05.

Six-year-old Charlie Trafford followed over 3 1/2 minutes later, with Jane Umney hot on her heels, but two minutes down on her first outing, as Isla Trafford (7) was ushered over the line a good dozen in arrears.

In the 3.65K event, Adam Geens was without accompanying sons, and had a personal finish of 17.47, while Lucas Rowley (11) dropped down to this distance which he completed half a dozen seconds behind.

Meanwhile, Ben Geens (11) ran along with James Burgess (11) and Stanley White (11) for most of this distance, before dropping back by over two minutes, as Stanley upped his distance for the first time to cross the line a dozen seconds behind the 20.57 set by James.

Deb Beachell was one of a few that revelled in the inclement weather - as wife, Alex recuperated at home from post COVID vaccination effects - and used the adage ‘no rain no gain’ that was meted out upon her and other soldiers throughout training in her former life.

Her full distance finish of 30.33 was only half a minute behind her best of this season, with Jules Brook only two-dozen behind and a little more than half that away from her fastest.

Wayne Pettitt overhauled Sienna Phillips (14) over the final lap to finish six seconds ahead in 23.23, as he set a new PB - the youngster dropping back by double that amount from her last week’s record - while Paul Lockett was 10 seconds ahead of the 24.04 set by the former’s wife, Julie.

Unfortunately, Steve Bourne, Karl Birch, Dave Edge and Steve Billing all found their times suffering in the conditions. Their respective times of 24.58, 25.44, 28.30 and 29.40 were down by 30, 26, two minutes and 150 seconds in comparison to the previous week.

The previous quartet weren’t the only ones to find the cold and damp conditions far from their liking.

The previous winner Ryan Holroyd dropped back by 44 seconds to 19.54, John Hurst by 15 seconds to 21.12 and Mark Woodcock by two-dozen in 21.33.

Meanwhile, Matt Boardman completed his first event in a time of 22.53, after following Lucas around for two of the laps and starting to go on a fourth before returning to the route.

Thanks to all who turned out which made the organisers efforts worthwhile