

GOOLE VIKING STRIDERS

NORTH LINCS HALF MARATHON

There was certainly plenty to like about the North Lincs Half Marathon last Sunday. Perfect conditions, flat as a pancake course, great organisation, plenty of water stops (Sheffield please note) and a stirring finish in Scunthorpe United's Glanford Park Stadium, all designed to inspire the 1100 odd finishers. And that's not including the finishers who weren't odd.

What comes next should be that all the Striders who entered got personal bests, but running's not like that although there were a few success stories. Carren Taun-Jackson demolished her previous best as she went well under 2 hours for the first time, and Karen Harper and Pat Harness both knocked decent chunks off theirs.

Steve Whitlam, having run both the infamous Sheffield Half and the very tough Coniston 14 in recent weeks, came within a second of his PB, but the fastest Strider on the day was Martin Booth, understandably nowhere near his PB because the old boy is knocking on a bit, but close to beating 90 minutes nevertheless.

The Kirkbymoorside 10k on the same day also featured a Striders contingent, the starring roles being taken by Charlie Stead, a brilliant run to come 21st out of 441, and by Dot Pullman, a triumphant return to competition.

However all these performances, good as they were, pale in comparison with Danny Durose's effort at the previous week's Rossington Gallop, a six mile trail race. Dan was third out of 153 runners in a time of 35.50, a fantastic performance on a difficult course.

North Lincs times: Martin Booth 90.18, Pat Harness 95.23, Lee Clarkson 96.57, Jonny McFaul 99.02, Steve Whitlam 99.04, Tim Harper 105.28, Nigel Warner 110.36, Carren Taun-Jackson 115.52, Mike Harvey 117.39, Karen Harper 117.47, Clare Thornton 126.10.

Kirkbymoorside times: Charlie Stead 39.34, Mike Pollard 48.17, Dave Pullman 53.20, Dot Pullman 60.24.