

Worcester County Championships
Malvern common – Saturday 10th January 2009
Senior mens report written by Tom Kenderdine of HA&CC

It looked indeed a wintery scene as low cloud descended on the frozen grassy slopes of Malvern common.

As I arrived after a brisk stroll from the school, I was greeted with a multitude of coloured running vests, representing people supporting their athletic clubs.

The atmosphere is warming which is delightful especially as we seem to be experiencing an “arctic blast” at the moment. For folks that haven’t yet tried running the county champs, that’s addressing youth and seniors, males and females, I highly recommend it

Its great that our club is represented very well in all the age categories. The mighty colours of Halesowen AC shone like a candle in the dark.

I personally enjoy watching people running the very best they can for their respective clubs it’s a wonderful part of running which some people miss out on.

Well as for our race, being the senior men’s, we line up in our shorts and vests. I did wear a small top underneath to keep off the chill (I’ve learnt my lessons in the past). I looked around me to see eager souls ready to tackle the course. We were lacking one of our strongest runners, that being Dave Kesterdine, who unfortunately had mechanical failure on the way to the race, resulting in him just arriving as the gun started, but he stayed along with Tracy his partner to cheer us on as we ran. A personal thank you to you both and everyone else that came competed and supported all.

It was great to see Dom coming back to a much deserved form finishing in a very respectable 3rd place overall a 1st back for the club.

The mighty legendary Bill Nock came past me in a whirlwind of speed which left me unable to match such power. A great sight to see, but at the time I was disappointed with myself for not being able to keep up. I think I just had one of those days which go to show we are only human. I choose unwisely on footwear and opted for stud selection instead of spike which didn’t help me at all.

Christian was not at his finest but being under 20yrs he has his time to come and I believe will be one of our finest runners.

Tucked in just behind Christian was the tall looming figure of Mark Hadley who gave a 1st class performance finishing 5th scorer for Halesowen, well done my friend. Our 6th scorer who helped us gain Silver for team results on the day was Nick Price who battled the course courageously in bleak conditions.

For those many that I haven’t mentioned who ran also, a very big thanks to you all, you all did extremely well.

Hopefully the weather and conditions will be kinder to us as we race in Coventry in Div 1 on Saturday, then travel to Mansfield for the Midland XC champs the following Saturday.

Until next time my fine friends

Tally Ho
Tommy K ☺