

Halesowen AC were crowned national champions last weekend at the British Masters Cross Country Championships in Ruthin, Wales.

The event is open to athletes aged 35 and over and with competitors from as far afield as Northern Ireland and Scotland, Halesowen managed to have 7 runners on the day, racing in the various age categories.

Over a predominantly dry, but twisty and undulating course, the club secured Team Gold in the V35 - V39 age group, with Dave Kesterton first home for the club in 10th position overall (having down aged for the team event), and 5th V40. Next home was Tom Kenderdine in 21st position overall and 5th in his age category V35, followed by Nick Price in 54th position overall and 10th in his age category V35

In the other age groups race, John Hill (V50) finished in 57th position (16th V55); with Paul Butler in 75th position (34th V50) and Paul Allen in 88th position (22nd V60)

Christine Lloyd was the club's sole female representative and gave a credible performance to finish 68th overall (9th FV50)

The race marked the end of a long cross country season, with the club having enjoyed one of its best seasons for a number of years. Attention now turns to the forthcoming road relays at Sutton Park, along with the start of the track and field season.