

Blackheath & Bromley Harriers Johnson Bowl 4 miles 29th Jun 22

During a period of unreliable weather the Blackheath & Bromley Annual Johnson Bowl race and match against Surrey Walking Club was held in ideal conditions with the evening sunshine moderated by a slight cool breeze. This race which has been held for over 100 years in various formats also contained the SWC 4 miles championship for the Gazette Cup and attracted a relative healthy number of 13 starters. It also included an element of coaching for the youngsters courtesy of Ashford's Chris Hobbs. For several years Roger Michell had won the BBHAC race but this time was no match for under-17, Johnny Ellerton, with a final margin of just under 3 minutes as the latter tried to hold leaders Jacqueline Benson and Grazia Manzotti who were not too far ahead. The conditions and the friendly competition yielded good times from many of the field, especially the winner, Jacqueline Benson. although the main SWC group of three were as usual well packed but also well down the field.

The organisers were grateful to the Benson family and timekeeper Steve Hollingdale and several others for their assistance in making this a successful and pleasurable event.

Results:

Mixed 4 Miles:

1. J.Benson (Ashf U23W) 35 min 20 sec; 2. G.Manzotti (Ton W50) 35 min 48 sec; 3. J.Ellerton (B&B U17B) 37 min 49 sec; 4. J.Arthur (Ilf M50) 39 min 6 sec; 5. D.Bradley (Ton W55) 39 min 15 sec; 6. R.Michell (Sy WC / B&B M70) 40 min 26 sec; 7. P.Watts (Swanley M70) 40 min 45 sec; 8. M.Ellerton (B&B M45) 42 min 46 sec; 9. D.Hoben (Sy WC/ B&B M65) 47 min 33 sec; 10. C.Flint (Sy WC M75) 47 min 55 sec; 11. P.Hannell (Sy WC / B&B M75) 50 min 34 sec; 12. S.Arthur (Ilf W35) 1 hr 7 min 2 sec.

2 miles (retired):

1. N.Simmons (Sy WC/ B&B M75) 28 min 34 sec.

Mixed:1 mile Development Event:

1. T.Checheku-Boamah (B&B U13B) 10 min 3 sec; 2. F.Newman (B&B U13G) 10 min 45 sec.

Johnson Bowl result: 1.J.Ellerton, 2. R.Michell, 3. M.Ellerton

Surrey Walking Club Gazette Cup & Championship: 1. R.Michell, 2. D.Hoben, 3. C.Flint.

Surrey Walking Club Jubilee Cup (Handicap): 1.C.Flint, 2.D.Hoben, 3.R.Michell.