

Steyping 10km, Spithandle Lane, Steyping 6th Nov 21

The speed and amount of traffic, particularly across the by-pass, has moved the course to a flatter country more remote and quiet country venue with 5 2km laps.

On a cool early November afternoon 9 competitors faced the starter for the Steyping open 10k. This was a new course of 5 x 1km out and back laps, which met the approval of competitors and officials. This less testing course meant over half the competitors were above or at around their expected level. At the end of the first lap Grazia Manzotti (Tonbridge) and Trevor Jones (Steyping) had a commanding lead from Ian Richards (Steyping). The leading two had a close duel to the tape with Grazia gaining a short lead by the tape with a time of 58m 16s from Trevor Jones in 58m 31s and improving by a couple of minutes. Ian Richards (Steyping) had an enforced stop and was overtaken by newcomer John Arthur (Unattached) just before 6km. John finished 3rd in 63m 56s with Ian in 4th with 66m 10s. Surrey Walking Club had two representatives: Paul Gaston and Dave Hoben. Paul had a close race with Stuart Maidment (Steyping) but was edged out with Paul finishing 6th in 68m 21s to Stuart's 68m 16s. Dave Hoben finished down the field but both SWC finished with positive performances.

In the buster handicap where prizes go to the most consistent walkers Dave Hoben came second.

Results:

(14 starters). SWC Handicap in brackets.

1. G.Manzotti (Ton W45) 58 min 16 sec; 2. T.Jones (Steyp M60) 58 min 31 sec; 3. J.Arthur (Unatt M50) 1 hr 3 min 56 sec; 4. I.Richards (Steyp M70) 1 hr 6 min 10 sec; 5. S.Maidment (Steyp M70) 1 hr 8 min 16 sec; 6. **P.Gaston** (Sy WC M70) 1 hr 8 min 21 sec; 7. F.Bishop (AFD W60) 1 hr 12 min 14 sec; 8. B.Kirkdale (Hast R M60) 1 hr 12 min 24 sec; 9. **D.Hoben** (Sy WC M65) 1 hr 16 min 19 sec