

Edinburgh Marathon Sunday 23rd May

Five Retford runners made the trip to the Scottish Capital for what is now accepted as the second biggest UK marathon after London with 9,459 finishers. With temperatures on race day building through the 70's up to a peak of 84 degrees during the race it was never going to be an event for fast times and for most became more an achievement to complete it.

Despite the conditions Iain Storey carried out his vow to run the event in fancy dress and duly took to the streets in a banana costume, Iain was one of very few costumed runners and surprised everyone including himself to finish well under four hours. This was Iain's third marathon and understandably his slowest but to record a time of 3 hours 53 minutes 20 seconds was a huge feat and placed him 2075th in the race. Ollie Lord was just in front of his club mate recording a time of 3:47:58 for 1,740th position. Similarly to Iain this was Ollie's third and slowest marathon though he was not too disappointed with his result after taking the conditions into account, and to Ollie's credit his final placing put him comfortably in the top 20% of the field .

Becky Duggan found the heat a huge barrier, and was just pleased to finish the 26.2 miles, her time of 4:10:06 some 27 minutes slower than her fine run at London last month. Becky still managed to finish in a creditable 3,475th position which is perhaps a better judgement of her efforts than the time, with close to six thousand runners behind her.

Andy Sly was another runner who's time slipped back from his previous races, though his problems were more to do with injury than the weather, a thigh strain causing him discomfort throughout the race. Despite this he completed the marathon in 2:54:54 earning 53rd place in the process.

Helen Crossley was the other Retford runner at the event, Helen was using the marathon as part of her "Ironman" preparation and she ran it as a training exercise finishing in 4:45:16 for 6,231st position.