

# RECORD ENTRIES FOR NICK BEER RACE

Good weather and a challenging course around the Great Orme helped to attract a record 500-plus runners for the annual Nick Beer Memorial 10k road race held in early February. *Report by Don Hale. Photographs by Stéphanie Durrant.*

It seemed quite incredible that despite a very wet and windy week beforehand, the day of this race proved almost perfect with warm sunshine and unusually mild temperatures, which all helped to boost the record entry of more than 500 runners for this spectacular annual memorial race.

Hundreds of people lined Llandudno's promenade to cheer the runners on their way, departing from near the Pier, to follow an undulating but picturesque route along Marine Drive and around the Great Orme before finishing back on the prom.

Ben Gamble from Stone led for most of the way on this challenging course but was overtaken in the last mile and finished 2nd behind Luke Northall of Tipton Harriers, with Bangor University student Rob Samuel 3rd, and Matt Cullen from St Helens 4th.

There was just 4 seconds separating the first two runners with Northall recording a good time of 33 minutes and 28 seconds; and there was less than a minute between the first five finishers. And >>





Colwyn Bay's super-fast teenager Harry Jones – the winner of the recent Pier to Pier race – finished a highly credible 6th place in 35.28 to claim the 1st Under 20 prize.

Some of the major men's results included: -

**MENS RACE:** 1st place overall: Luke Northall (Tipton) 33.28; 2nd Ben Gamble (Stone) 33.32; 3rd Rob Samuel (Bangor) 33.51; 4th Matt Cullen (St Helens) 34.19; 5th Richard Roberts (Eryri) 34.26; 6th Harry Roberts (Colwyn Bay) 35.28. Veteran's race: 1st Over 40 male: Sean McCormack (Abergele Harriers) 36.49. 1st Over 45 male: John Earlston (Abergele Harriers). 1st Over



50 male: Mike Weedall (Wrexham) 35.36. 1st Over 55 male: Alan Pitchford 40.29. 1st Over 60 male: Don Williams (Eryri) 40.52. 1st Over 65 male: Roger Sandland (Telford AC) 46.30. 1st Over 70 male: Joe Park (Cheshire Tally Ho) 50.33.

**LADIES RACE:** - 1st Lynne Wright 38.45; 2nd Anna Bartlett (Shrewsbury) 39.43; 3rd Carmen Anthony (Belle Vue) 39.58. Veterans race. 1st Over 35 female: Paula Jones 43.35, 2nd Alison Tickner (Oswestry) 44.15, 3rd Helen McArthur (Colwyn Bay) 45.28. 1st Over

40 female: Tracy Williams (Denbigh Harriers) 46.15, 2nd Anne Budenberg (Vale Royal) 46.46, 3rd Sharon Jones 46.58. 1st Over 45 female: Liz Thornton (Liverpool) 44.46, 2nd Mary Taverner (Vale Royal) 46.04, 3rd Alison Cooke (Hereford) 46.24. 1st Over 50 female: Sheila Bickerton (South Cheshire) 45.59, 2nd M Doyle (Liverpool) 47.37, 3rd June Cooke (Prestatyn) 54.29. 1st Over 55 female: Phillipa Millward 47.50, 2nd Rosemary Rodgers (Dee Striders) 49.39, 3rd Ann Jones (Wrexham) 55.33. 1st Over 60 female: Sue Stafford (Goyt Valley) 53.06, 2nd Margaret Williams 67.57. ■



**Above** Pictured at the end of the Nick Beer 10k race are (left to right) Rob Samuel of Bangor University, Matt Cullen from St Helens, race winner Luke Northall from Tipton, and 2nd placed Ben Gamble from Stone.