

Andover Triathlon 2010

Months of planning and hard work came to a fitting end on Sunday 25th July, when Andover Triathlon Club hosted their annual races at Farleigh School. The club has gained a strong reputation for putting on a quality set of races and this year's event was hailed as a big success again from all involved.

The event involved a set of three races. An adult sprint race in the morning, followed by a junior and youth race in the afternoon. All races were blessed with near perfect weather conditions being warm, but not too hot with very little breeze.

The adult race comprised of a 440m swim, which used the fabulous pool at Farleigh to start, followed by an undulating 18 mile bike and 5 mile run course which took advantage of local sights and villages including Danebury ring, The Wallop's, Stockbridge, and the Clatford's.

This year's race saw a record entry with 140 adults tackling the course, all of which managed to finish. This included many local first timers and novices, in addition to many seasoned athletes who travelled from further a field. The race also saw the Army Air Corp use the event for its club championships, which was a first for the event.

Peter Campbell won the male race representing Portsmouth Triathletes in a time of 1 hour 28 minutes 13 seconds. Ben Unsworth (Thames Turbo) was second and Dominic Paul (Kelly College) was third.

The female victory went to Tanya Hunt (Salisbury Tri club) in 1.40.38. Rachel Clay (Portsmouth) was second and third went to Carolyn Craik (unattached).

Andover Triathlon Club's Tony Ebdon won the Army Air Corp championships in a time of 1.37.09. He also finished in 10th position overall.

The junior and youth races then took place in the afternoon, which were held within the grounds of the school. These races again saw record entries with 99 juniors and 28 youths completing the courses. The junior race attracted a lot of local novice youngsters including a sizeable entry from Longparish School in addition to several experienced juniors. The youth race was a more competitive affair with many of the competitors already competing regularly throughout the season.

Millicent Routledge won the junior female race in 10 minutes 49 seconds, with Mollie Perks and Rebecca Andrews in second and third respectively. Katy Evans was the first Longparish junior home in 10th position.

The boys race was won by Jono Gray (Farnham) in 9.47, Charlie Darbyshire was second and Andover Triathlon Club's Steffen Burgess was third. Mattheiu Rident (Longparish) was fourth.

Katie Metalli (DB Max Tri) and Leon Mander (Chapel Tri Stars) won the Youth races in 18.49 and 16.57 respectively, both of whom put in great performances, which would have put many of the adults to shame.

All competitors went home with a goody bag and all category winners took home prizes courtesy of our sponsors.

The club would like to thank Farleigh School for the venue, Burlison Photography for capturing the action from the day in addition to our lead sponsor Symantec without the support of which the event could not happen. Other sponsors were Jeep bags, Finkley Down Farm, The Hawk conservancy, Up & running and the Tri 20 Open Water Swim Centre.

Full results are available at www.andovertriathlon.org.uk and images from the day are available at www.burlisonphotography.co.uk

Photos courtesy of Burlison Photography.