

Andover Triathlon club were well represented at last weekends Reading Half Marathon with fourteen of its members running the 13.1 mile distance. The race, which attracted over 17,000 entrants this year, was run in near perfect conditions, with clear blue skies and cool temperatures in and around the town centre finishing in Reading's Madejski Stadium. For many from the club this was their first race at this distance and some excellent times were achieved.

Coming over the finish line 1st for Andover was David Hall with an outstanding time of 1:34:40, placing 1134th overall, close behind was Chris Thompson in 1:39:53 (1977th) and Pete Dennett 1:43:09 (2572nd). Half marathon first timers Paul Holmes, 1:44:08 (2796th) and Paul Wills, 1:44:11 (2807th) were next home and coming in together were Matt Lundie placing 3916th with a time of 1:48:52 and Martin Brown, also his first time at this race distance, in 1:48:55 (3935th).

Paul Venus and Stewart Roberts then arrived with a superb sprint finish, both getting 1:49:00 and placing 3954th and 3957th. Half marathon first timer Jacqui Healey put in a sterling effort to finish with a time of 2:00:07 placing 6968th, followed by Hannah Williams who had an excellent run beating her previous time on this course by 20 minutes finishing in a time of 2:01:06 which gave her 7119th position. Jase Briley continued his steady improvement in road running to take 9865th position in 2:15:28 and new member Kieron Parnell finished in a time of 2:25:03 which was outstanding given that he had not run further than 6 miles before this race. Dave Pope was welcomed across the line shortly after in 2:32:41. With the Triathlon season starting in April next up for the club will be the Winchester Sprint Triathlon. www.andovertriathlon.org.uk