

Personal best times tumble at super run

Field drawn from far and wide



They're off - runners at the Telford 10k road race enjoyed a wider start. Pictures: BOB GREAVES.

Claire regains her women's crown in a new best time

Telford AC's Claire Martin, who previously won the Telford 10k women's event in 2004, was a clear winner this time.

And she set a new personal best of 34.06, shattering her previous best by 32 seconds to go 27th in this year's 10k rankings.

Her time was just 22 seconds outside the course record is the second fastest

ever time on this Town Park course.

Kim Fawke, last year's winner, amazingly ran exactly the same time as last year - 35.00 - which considering she had been feeling unwell all week was good.

She just got second place on the line as she was given the same time as third-placed Jenny Clague from Liverpool, winner of this year's Lake Vrynwy Half Marathon.

Another indication of the quality in this year's race was that 35.00 minutes last year put Kim 28th in the race overall - on Sunday the same time put her 54th.

British Masters

Telford AC's Cheralyn Evans, the reigning British Masters 10k champion, was the next local finisher in ninth in 36.47, a new personal best and a stunning four minutes quicker than the time she ran in this race last year.

Amanda Dalkins from Birchfield, who will be soon moving to live in Telford, was 10th in 37.00.

Sian Davies was 11th in 37.40 with Telford AC's Sarah Mackness breaking 40 minutes for the first time finishing 15th in 39.25.

Other leading locals in the women's races:
16th Lucy Dalton - Telford Harriers 40.42;



Face in the crowd - Ronnie O'Sullivan chats to race fans

26th Hazel Bonfield - Shropshire Shufflers 44.15; 27th Juliet Hood - Newport 44.38; 28th Lisa Yeomans - Telford Harriers 44.47; 30th Aimee Jackson - Telford Harriers 45.10; 31st Pauline Newton - Newport 45.46; 33rd Sarah Mawhinney - Mid Shrop Wheelers 45.57.

34th Judi Clayton - Newport 46.07; 35th Libby Collinson - Shropshire Shufflers 46.28; 40th Abi Gregory - Telford AC 47.48; 41st Mary Eardley - Shropshire Shufflers 47.53; 42nd Sarah Brand - Telford AC 48.24; 46th Kim Denning - Wrekin RR 49.46; 49th Jo Coombes - Newport 50.43; 50th Elizabeth Wynn - Wrekin RR 50.45.

The highest quality race in Shropshire for 20 years saw 17 runners break 31 minutes in this year's Telford 10k Road Race.

With more than 600 entries and a record number of 474 finishers, Sunday's Telford Athletic Club was a huge success - despite the cold conditions that greeted runners who had travelled to the race from all corners of the British Isles.

Watched by Ronnie O'Sullivan, crowned UK Snooker champion later in the day, a new wider start designed by race director Dave Mansbridge gave the large field the ideal chance to get a fast start in the Town Park.

Top quality distance runners had entered after a publicity campaign on the Facebook website by some leading athletes to get a good field assembled on this fast flat course ideal for personal best times.

Dave Webb from Leeds City AC, who is based in Birmingham and is the fiancée of Telford AC's Sian Davies from Eaton Constantine, was an impressive winner.

Webb, second last year, went one better this year taking the title in 29.32.

Ranked

In the same GB team as Chris Davies in last month's Eikeden Road Relays in Japan, Webb is currently fourth ranked in the country over 10k on the road.

His Leeds City clubmate Alan Buckley was second in 29.50 with Lee Marrian from Guernsey third in 29.56.

Another indication of the quality of the race is that 12 of the top 76 times on this year's national 10k rankings on the Power of 10 website were achieved at this year's Telford 10k.

Dan Soltys from Telford AC was the first Shropshire finisher in 22nd in a new personal best of 32.12.

Chris Bagshaw, Telford AC, winner of the recent North Wales Cross-Country League fixture, was the next local man in 28th, in a new personal best by a minute of 32.22.

Wayne Dashper and Will Joyce were the next two home in 30th and 31st in 32.41 and 32.42.

Robin Sedman-Smith of Telford AC, a languages teacher at Adams Newport, was the next local home in 37th, 38.22.

Telford's ex-British Veterans Champion, Greg Wilson an over 50, was amazingly the first veteran to finish of any age in 40th, 38.47.

PAUL SANDERSON reports on another top class Telford 10k race



Out in front - Dave Webb, the men's winner

Other leading local finishers in the first 100:

50th Edward Jopling Newport 34.39; 66th Richard Jones Telford AC 35.26; 67th Kevin Francis Shrewsbury AC 35.34; 77th Paul Williams Telford AC 36.08; 80th Richard Lucock Telford AC 36.24; 83rd Robert Hall Shrewsbury AC 36.29; 91st Nicholas Pollock Shropshire Shufflers 37.26; 94th Paul Parkinson Newport 37.43; 96th Richard Hunter Shropshire Shufflers 37.54.



Racing towards a new personal best - Sarah Mackness of host club Telford powers through the Town Park on her way to a time of 39.25 and 15th place

Baschurch boys in county title triumph

Baschurch Tennis Club's under-12 boys Tom Edge and Oliver Gwilt - pictured - put the icing on the cake of a fine season in the junior national club league.

The under-12s were crowned county champions after beating Newport's Boughey Gardens in the final at the Celtic centre in Shrewsbury.

Baschurch's under-14 team of Harrison Gwilt and Christopher Penney lost to Ludlow in their final.



Whitaker's

Robert Whitaker failed by seven to complete a stunning double at national Horse Show.

The unlucky Whitaker finished behind Holland's Albert Zoer at jump-off for the £12,000 first prize yesterday.

Whitaker and Lacroix, who came after winning the Stockholm Grand day of the London show and shire rider took yesterday's competition on Finbarr V.