



**Bourton Roadrunners**  
Bourton-on-the-Water, Cheltenham, Glos

## **Humph's Hilly Half Marathon 2010**

In contrast to the usual hot sultry conditions of the Humph's Hilly Half, this year's event was held in almost perfect conditions, starting at 6 p.m. from the centre of the picturesque village of Bourton-on-the-Water. Whilst not an easy course, living up to its 'hilly' name, the route meanders through Cotswold villages and beautiful scenery to finish back in Bourton-on-the-Water.

This year's winner, from the home club of Bourton Roadrunners, Mike Smith was delighted to have defeated previous several times winner, Gary Payne of George Elliot Striders, with a tactical race, tracking him for the majority of the race and opening up a one and a half minute lead by the finish to record 1:16:18 ahead of Vet 50 Gary's 1:18:44. A late entry, all the way from San Francisco and attending Princeton University, was 19 year old Colby Pines in his first Half Marathon, with an excellent debut of 1:23:06, followed by Johann Breytenbach from Stratford AC in 1:23:38 and Roger Gill, unattached in 1:24:51.

In the Veterans categories outside the first 5, Dave Rantell of Cheltenham & County Harriers finished first MV40 with a time of 1:25:34, chased by Ewen Smith of Bourton in 1:26:39. Martin Townsend of Woodstock Harriers, 3rd MV40, completed in 1:27:48 and Andy Maybury of Black Pear Joggers 4th MV40 in 1:28:44.

The other Veteran categories, receiving 1st prize only were: MV45 Brian Miller, Leamington C & AC 1:26:51, MV50 Paul Barnes, Cheltenham & Co. H. 1:28:53, MV55 Richard Hookham, Malvern Joggers 1:31:04, MV60 David Parsons, Oxford City AC 1:30:28, MV65 Colin Talbot, Midland Masters AC 1:41:14, MV70 Peter Chittenden, Top Zone Runners 1:53:26.

Michelle Parsons of Evesham Vale RC led the Ladies Race by a huge margin of 4 minutes for 1:29:02, with second place Kim Drinkwater of Gloucester AC finishing strongly in 1:33:12 and Brittany Teague of Bourton 3rd in 1:39:06.

Lucy Walmsley of Bourton took first LV35 in 1:33:55, followed by Karen Galpin of Almost Athletes, 2nd LV35 in 1:40:19 and Denise Evans, unattached, 3rd LV35 in 1:45:09.

The first place winners of the other categories were: LV40 Claire McBride, unattached in 1:42:06, LV45 Jane Leckebusch, Gloucester AC in 1:42:38 and LV50 Deborah Southgate, Angels RC in 1:47:44.

Bourton Roadrunners took both the men and ladies' team prizes, consisting of Mike Smith, Ewen Smith and Darren Long, with a huge margin of 50 points and Lucy Walmsley, Brittany Teague and Jan Short by just 2 points clear of Gloucester AC.