

Steppingley Step – Sunday 3rd November 2013

As usual we had complaints about the mud, but this time it was because there wasn't enough.

The checkpoint opening times were set to try to spread the number of people at the start (parking, hall, registration, loos and kitchen), at the checkpoints and at the end. We encouraged people to choose a start time to fit in with the checkpoint opening times, but lots of people started at 08.00 and arrived at Harlington before it opened at 09.30. The clever ones aimed for later and didn't have to queue.

The Marshal's Walk took place on a horrible day. Dave F-H & I provided some support, but could do nothing about the weather. 16 people did the marshals' walk, on the day, or thereabouts.

The day of the event was, for the third consecutive year, unseasonable warm. The original Steppingley Step route had to be changed due to the building of Centre Parcs in Millbrook Warren. In order to remove a section of road walking and the dangerous road crossing at Clophill as well as the outdoor checkpoint 2, the long route was substantially changed. DFH took the opportunity to have it visit Coopers Hill nature reserve and Flitwick Moor and use the Steppingley checkpoint twice. The medium route was also changed between Steppingley and Pulloxhill to bring it into line with the long route. The first section of all routes was changed to give better views from the Clappers and provide a drier route to Harlington. Feedback on the new routes was very positive.

For checkpoints we used a marquee in the car park of The Old Sun in Harlington, Steppingley Village Hall (twice) and Pulloxhill Church Hall, plus HQ in the Village Hall, Barton-le-Clay. Many thanks to all those who manned checkpoints & HQ, 24 people at various times. Finishing times, photos and feedback are on the Step Step web page.

	Entries	Starters	Non-starters	Retired	Finished
12 mile	47	42	5	0	42
18 mile	55	45	10	0	45
26 mile	217	183	34	2	183
overall	317	270	49	2	270

INCOME

Entry income	£1706.00
Badge sales	£ 64.00
Donation for teas to Air Ambulance	<u>£ 72.89</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>£1842.89</u>

EXPENDITURE

Food	£ 468.75
Hall hire	£ 345.00
Other expenses (badges, plastic , tallies etc.)	<u>£ 471.22</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>£1285.97</u>

SURPLUS

Income	£1842.89
Expenditure	£1285.97
Donation to Air Ambulance	<u>£ 72.89</u>
SURPLUS	<u>£ 484.03</u>

Ninety two people qualified for their S-S-S triple certificate and badge.

Thanks to all on the SS committee, and all the marshals, who helped to make it a jolly good event.

Merrian Lancaster
November 2013