



The 28th Ricky Road Run

30th October 2011

Despite this race passing within 200m of my front door, last year was the first time I had entered this race & despite running a reasonable time I decided not to run it again – the stretch along the A404 from Chorleywood to Little Chalfont was not only unpleasant but positively dangerous as traffic attempting to reach 50mph was ‘hampered’ by 450+ runners on the road.

Perhaps I was not the only one to think this way as this year’s entry was well down – 320 finishers compared with 477 last year. As it turned out this was a real shame because the organisers/council came up with a new route which cut out the main road & concentrated on the lanes around Chorleywood, some of which were closed to traffic for the duration of the race. The 9.5 (or so) miles is now a pleasant but challenging course.

A smaller than normal number of Chiltern Harriers were present for the 10.30 start in slightly humid but not unpleasant conditions. The first half of the race now features a number of inclines as the route nears & passes through Chorleywood before heading to Little Chalfont. The return down Burtons Lane & the last 1.5 miles are mainly downhill so a fast finish is possible.

Simon Beedell ran tremendously to come 6th in 58.06, and congratulations must go to Sian Thomas, 1st lady in 61.43 (14th overall). Richard Caulfield (24th) was next home in 64.48, followed by David Breingan (40th) in 67.54.

My thanks to Mike Shrive & Rik Edwards for their support along the route.

The full list of Chiltern finishers:

Name	Position	Time
Simon Beedell	6	58:06
Sian Thomas	14 (1 st)	61:43
Richard Caulfield	24	64:48
David Breingan	40	67:54
Sarah Caulfield	107 (17 th)	75:32
Kate Loach	119 (20 th)	76:34
Dave Turner	123	77:18
Martin Allen	136	78:03
Peter Taylor	173	82:18