

November 15

## BARR'S EDINBURGH TO GLASGOW RELAY

MIZUNO Racing Club won the 45.5-mile inter-city race for the eighth year in a row to move a step closer to Shettleston Harriers' record of 11 wins in the 60-year history of the competition, *Fraser Clyne reports.*

The defending champions were, nevertheless, made to work a little harder than they might have expected.

Kilbarchan AAC led until the seventh leg and an upset looked as though it might be possible.

Mizuno's strength in depth told in the end, however, with a sparkling penultimate leg performance from Tom Hanlon and an equally powerful final stint from Glen Stewart ensuring there would be no new name on the winner's trophy for at least another 12 months.

Mizuno's Davie Ross had further reason to celebrate the victory as he is now the only club member to have featured in all eight winning line-ups.

That honour could have been shared by veteran John Robson but the 1978 Commonwealth Games 1500m bronze medallist had to pull out of the Mizuno squad on the eve of the race after going over an ankle and sustaining a possible fracture.

Kilbarchan, bronze medallists in 1997, were disappointed at coming so close but were nonetheless satisfied to move up to second position on this occasion. It's the Renfrewshire side's highest place in the event.

Fife also enjoyed their best performance in the race by finishing third a year after collecting the most meritorious award in fifth spot.

Trudi Thomson made history by becoming the first woman to compete in the race when she finished 19th on the fourth stage for Babcock Pitreavie.

Metro Aberdeen super-vet Colin Youngson maintained his amazing record in the historic race by competing for the 29th time since his debut for Aberdeen University in 1966. His club finished 11th.

The prize for the most meritorious performance went to City of Edinburgh Awho finished sixth after being 10th in 1997.

Garscube Harriers, bronze medallists in 1931 and silver medallists in 1935, were allowed to compete as special guests in the invitation-only race.

It was the Glasgow club's first appearance since 1971 but there was to be no fairytale ending as they finished last - more than 20 minutes behind the next slowest team.

## Stage one (5.5M)

FIFE's John Cunningham and Carnegie's Steve Cairns were the first to show at the head of the field of 22 as the race got underway from the gates of Fettes College in near-perfect conditions.

Kilbarchan's Tommy Hearle moved to the front around the halfway point but he was hunted down in the closing stages by a group headed by Cambuslang's Douglas Runciman.

Runciman kicked off over 200m to go and handed over a few yards ahead of Cunningham and Hearle settling for third.

David Gardiner of defending champions Mizuno was in eighth.

## Stage two (6.8M)

NATIONAL cross country champion Bobby Quinn set off in determined mood and overtook Cambuslang and Fife to give his

Kilbarchan side a 49sec lead.

Chris Robison was the star of the leg, however, as he clocked the quickest time when pulling Inverclyde from 14th to seventh.

Billy Coyle brought Shettleston from sixth to second while Ken Chapman hauled Mizuno into the frame for the first time by coming through in third, 55sec behind the leader.

## Stage three (4.7M)

VETERAN Tom Anderson kept Kilbarchan in pole position but Ian McNicol recorded the fastest time when taking Mizuno into second place and closing the gap to 19sec.

Archie Jenkins eased 1987 winners Cambuslang up from sixth to third as Shettleston slipped to fourth.

## Stage four (5.3M)

THE real battle began to rage as Mizuno's Scott Cohen caught Kilbarchan's Robert Fitzsimmons to challenge for the lead. Any thoughts that Fitzsimmons might give way under the pressure were quickly dispelled as he edged back in front and sprinted clear over the final 400m to hand over two seconds in front.

While these two were engaged in fighting for top spot Inverclyde's Steve Conaghan was clocking the quickest stage time when lifting his club into third ahead of Cambuslang, Shettleston and Fife.

## Stage five (5.5M)

THE top two were now out on their own and Ian McDougall extended Kilbarchan's lead to 16sec as Mizuno's Brian Kirkwood appeared to suffer from having competed in the previous day's Braid Hills cross country race in Edinburgh.

Kirkwood hadn't expected to be in the team but was called up following Robson's late call-off.

Cambuslang's Alex Robertson claimed the fastest time when bringing his side from fifth to third as Inverclyde's John McFadyen slipped to fourth, ahead of Fife's Terry Mitchell.

## Stage six (7M)

PHIL MOWBRAY took the honours on the longest stage of the race with the best time which took Hunters Bog Trotters up from eighth to sixth.

At the front Alan Puckrin built upon Kilbarchan's hard-earned lead by taking 23sec out of Mizuno's Davie Ross.

Neil Wilkinson kept Cambuslang in third but Cambridge University student Daniel Leggate turned in an outstanding effort to drag Fife closer to the medal positions with the second fastest time.

## Stage seven (5.5M)

KILBARCHAN went into the penultimate stage holding a 37sec advantage over Mizuno. Hopes of defending that slender lead were soon obliterated as Olympic steeplechaser Tom Hanlon showed his true class and mercifully swept past Alex Muir.

By the end of the stage Hanlon had defeated the brave Kilbarchan challenge and was able to hand

over a 48sec lead.

Hugh Mackay gave Fife real hope of a top three place for the first time by overtaking Cambuslang and moving into third.

## Stage eight (5.4M)

GLENN STEWART was never likely to slip-up as he set off on the final stage for the fourth year in a row. And so it proved - the Scottish international clocked the fastest time by 79sec to maintain Mizuno's unbeaten record in the race.

The eventual winning margin of 2:05 didn't do justice to the fine effort Kilbarchan put up as George Gibson manfully stuck to his task to secure second.

Fife's Sandy Moss set off with Cambuslang's Wilson McTaggart hot on his heels but the former Scottish universities' cross country champion kept his cool and clinched third place.

## Men

1 Mizuno Racing Club 3:47:15 (D Gardiner 28:24, K Chapman 30:26, I McNicol 25:11, S Cohen 26:45, B Kirkwood 29:03, D Ross 34:35, T Hanlon 27:08, G Stewart 25:43); 2 Kilbarchan 3:49:20 (T Hearle 27:50, R Quinn 30:05, T Anderson 25:47, R Fitzsimmons 27:02, I McDougall 28:51, A Puckrin 34:12, A Muir 28:31, G Gibson 27:02); 3 Fife 3:52:06 (J Cunningham 27:48, J Stewart 31:03, K McCue 26:17, O Greene 29:18, T Mitchell 28:04, D Leggate 33:46, H McKay 28:43, S Moss 27:07); 4 Ronhill Cambuslang Harriers 3:52:19 (D Runciman 27:43, C Thomson 31:17, A Jenkins 25:52, J Brown 28:17, A Robertson 27:16, N Wilkinson 35:34, D Thom 29:10, W McTaggart 27:10); 5 Shettleston Harriers 3:54:02 (D Cameron 28:08, W Coyle 30:36, D McGonigle 26:12, J Mackay 27:52, D Crowe 30:02, G J Macky 35:02, D Gow 28:50, B Scally 27:20, 6 City of Edinburgh 3:54:27 (A Sharkey 27:56, M Ferguson 32:34, I Steel 26:21, T Ellacott 28:00, J Pringle 28:47, J Pyrah 34:25, I Johnstone 28:45, A Donachie 27:39); 7 Inverclyde 3:54:56 (G Gaffney 29:14, C Robison 30:00, T Tipping 26:17, S Conaghan 26:39, J McFadyen 30:18, T Murray 34:03, S Hodge 28:47, C Spence 29:38); 8 Hunters Bog Trotters 3:55:24 (C Farquharson 28:34, D Naylor 31:08, H Lorimer 26:56, N Bisset 29:46, A Hart 28:12, P Mowbray 33:38, R Harries 28:29, I Harkness 29:31); 9 Dundee Hawkhill Harriers 4:01:18 (B Rennie 29:01, D Adams 32:43, C Ross 27:25, B Cook 29:11, N Gunstone 29:14, G Barrie 36:39, C Haskett 29:22, M Strachan 27:43); 10 Springburn Harriers 4:01:38 (J Hendry 28:30, J Bell 31:58, A Lees 26:22, J Cooper 29:52, D Houston 30:03, J McLaughlin 37:09, R Souter 29:28, A McIndoo 28:16); 11 Metro Aberdeen 4:03:14 (R Taylor 29:22, N Milovorov 31:45, C Youngson 30:13, M Johnson 29:39, K Farquhar 28:09, K Varney 36:14, P Jennings 30:51, J Stewart 30:01); 12 Clydesdale Harriers 4:05:22 (W Jenkins 30:16, S O'Connor 32:48, J Hanratty 27:29, J Austin 29:19, M McDonald 30:25, A Adams 33:56, R

Young 30:13, B Edridge 30:56); 13 FMC Carnegie Harriers 4:05:22 (S Cairns 27:51, S Ogg 33:38, I Stewart 26:07, K Leitch 29:43, B McDonald 29:57, P Morrison 37:07, I Taylor 30:28, M Harvey 30:38); 14 Livingston 4:06:22 (R Lee 29:18, P Dymoke 33:26, S Logan 29:22, G Gilhooly 30:18, D Simmons 30:46, C Meek 35:47, G Acland 29:13, T Brand 28:12, 15 Law & District 4:06:50 (J Reid 28:27, A Russell 30:29, A Ramage 27:24, W Weir 29:27, J Froot 31:09, R Cooke 40:30, M Hand 30:45, J Muir 28:39); 16 Falkirk Victoria Harriers 4:07:32 (M McQuaid 28:43, D Hart 32:19, G Couper 28:17, S Lawson 31:59, D Beagley 30:10, M Colligan 35:51, J Martin 30:24, D Gillespie 29:49); 17 Irvine 4:12:13 (B Richardson 28:21, L Richardson 32:34, A Clinton 28:20, C Miller 30:03, J White 30:57, D Millar 39:08, A Rennie 31:50, B Craig 30:59); 18 Babcock Pitreavie 4:13:00 (D Armit 30:15, J Farquhar 32:27, D Smith 29:03, T Thomson 31:30, C Watson 30:08, N Cunningham 37:29, A Cowan 32:26, K Duncan 29:42 in Aberdeen 4:12:56 (C O'Brien 30:02, S Smith 34:45, T Bracegirdle 26:52, D Duguid 29:48, B Sheridan 32:08, P Jones 39:10, S Mason 30:12, M Simpson 29:59); 20 Kwik Fit Corstorphine 4:19:07 (S Bisset 29:35, P O'Brien 36:13, M Hulme 29:41, M Anderson 30:46, B Nicholson 32:58, D Law 38:59, M Cardwell 31:55, K Hood 29:30, 21 Bellahouston Harriers 4:23:14 (C Joss 31:07, C Scott 33:52, G Mercer 31:55, G Dickson 31:07, J McFadyen 32:06, R Bruce 40:45, M Ware 31:47, I Burke 30:35); 22 Garscube Harriers 4:45:43 (J McAnery 34:14, D Geddes 37:33, P McGlynn 32:58, J Dryden 34:11, S Sheridan 35:03, I Cullen 42:54, I Dunn 35:09, S Cullen 33:41)

## Fastest

Stage one: Runciman 27:43, Cunningham 27:48, Hearle 27:50, Cairns 27:51, Sharkey 27:56

Stage two: Robison 30:00, Quinn 30:05, Chapman 30:26, Russell 30:29, Coyle 30:36

Stage three: McNicol 25:11, Anderson 25:47, Jenkins 25:52, Lorimer 26:06, Stewart 26:07

Stage four: Conaghan 26:39, Cohen 26:45, Fitzsimmons 27:02, Mackay 27:52, Ellacott 28:00

Stage five: Robertson 27:16, Mitchell 28:04, Farquhar 28:09, Hart 28:12, Pringle 28:47

Stage six: Mowbray 33:38, Leggate 33:46, Adams 33:56, Murray 34:03, Puckrin 34:12

Stage seven: Hanlon 27:08, Harries 28:29, Muir 28:31, McKay 28:43, Johnstone 28:45

Stage eight: Stewart 25:43, Gibson 27:02, Moss 27:07, McTaggart 27:10, Scally 27:20

## BRIGTON &amp; HOVE AC REEBOK 10km

WINNER here in 1990, Dave Miles donned the black vest of Birchfield Harriers for the first time and celebrated by charging along the seafront for a clear victory, *Pete Mulholland reports.*  
An ever regular at this event,