

SCOTTISH NEWS AND RESULTS

Record Fields In Road Relay Championships

THE increasing popularity of the Scottish Women's Road Relay Championships was reflected by the record number of 141 teams which took part in this year's event at Levensgrove Park, Dumbarton, on October 5th. The picturesque estuary of the River Clyde and the majestic spectacle of Dumbarton Rock and Castle in the background provided a magnificent setting for the meeting.

The main race of the day, the Senior 3x2½ miles, was convincingly won by McLaren Glasgow AC, who finished 53 seconds ahead of runners-up Edinburgh Woollen Mill Southern and 1:55 seconds clear of third placed Edinburgh AC. At the end of the first stage Violet Blair had given Southern the lead with a brisk 13:36, and a 22 seconds margin over Glasgow, for whom Evelyn Gisbey ran a steady 13:58. Livingston's Joyce Salvona was a further 57 seconds behind, whilst Edinburgh AC had got off to a disastrous start with Linda Purdie finishing well down in 12th.

Derek Parker Reporting

Eileen Cochrane (14:21) took Glasgow into the lead on the second lap as Southern lost a lot of ground; Sheila Brown (16:30) just holding off Livingston's Anne Hartness (15:19). Good efforts from Jan Stewart (15:19) and Shona Chalmers (15:39) put John and June Ward's young Victoria Park team into fourth place, while a determined run from Paula Hawtin (14:51) brought Edinburgh AC right through the field into fifth. Over the final lap Anne Ridley (14:12) maintained Glasgow's lead, bringing them home to a well-deserved victory in an overall time of 42:31, but any doubts that Southern might lose second place were soon dispelled by a scintillating performance from Alison Jenkins, whose 13:18 circuit was the fastest of the day. Second fastest lap time was recorded by Penny Rother (13:24) who completed the EAC recovery by anchoring them into third. The Victoria Park 'Young Senior' squad, comprising Lesley Rankin (15:34), Lynsey Campbell (17:15) and Hazel McHenry (16:07), edged their Senior colleagues out of eighth position by three seconds in winning the Euro-Junior title.

The Intermediates 3x two miles race was won by Lochgelly AC, formed just a few years ago by Jimmy Bryce, following his departure from Pitreavie AAC after coaching there for more than a decade. Useful laps from Tracy Rutherford (8:54) and Louise Kernaghan (9:03) set the scene for Tracy Wilson to record the quickest lap of 8:15 in overtaking Kilbarchan's Andrea Fisher and giving the Fife team a 40

seconds winning margin. Kilbarchan and Irvine, for whom Carole Lunney and Valerie Clinton were their respective team's top performers with 8:47 apiece, were second and third.

Kilmarnock were worthy winners of the Junior title. Always in contention, their final stage runner, Mary McClung, who showed excellent track form in the summer over distances ranging from 200 to 3000m, recorded the fastest lap time of 6:45 to take them from third to first. Strathkelvin, inspired by a fast initial circuit from Marlene Gemmell (6:59), finished second, with Irvine in third taking their second set of 'bronze' medals. Kilbarchan, who had held the title for the last two years, led over the first two laps, but dropped three places to eventually finish fourth and surrender an unbeaten record which had lasted from October 1984 and included seven Scottish team titles.

There was more glory for Strathkelvin in the Girls' event, when their team had a five seconds winning margin from Aberdeen with Victoria Park, two seconds behind. Aberdeen's Dawn Simpson had the fastest lap; and it was her club's team of Gillian Wilson, Carol Thomson and Sandra Gunn which won the Minor Girls' event by six seconds from Carlisle who edged out Colzium by three seconds.

The organisers of this enjoyable championship meeting, along with all the officials, deserve full credit for the smooth running of the event; and the enthusiasm and determination of all the competitors in each race proved once again that while there can only be one winner, there need never be any losers.

Seniors — 1, McLaren Glasgow 42:31 (E. Gisbey 13:58, E. Cochrane 14:21, A. Ridley 14:12); 2, Edinburgh WM Southern 43:24 (V. Blair 13:36, S. Brown 16:30, A. Jenkins 13:18); 3, Edinburgh AC 44:26 (L. Purdie 16:11, P. Hawtin 14:51, P. Rother 13:24); 4, Livingston 45:12 (J. Salvona 14:55, A. Hartness 15:19, A. Curtis 14:58); 5, Strathkelvin 47:44 (A. Bruce 15:17, C. Fleming 15:57, S. Sword 16:30); 6, Livingston 'B' 48:20. **Fastest:** Jenkins 13:18; Rother 13:24; Blair 13:36. **'Young Seniors'** — Victoria Park 48:56 (L. Rankin 15:34, L. Campbell 17:15, H. McHenry 16:07). **Intermediates** — 1, Lochgelly 26:12 (T. Rutherford 8:54, L. Kernaghan 9:03, T. Wilson 8:15); 2, Kilbarchan 26:52 (R. DeJager 8:54, C. Lunney 8:47, A. Fisher 9:11); 3, Irvine 27:34 (V. Clinton 8:47, S. Robb 9:12, F. Calder 9:35); 4, McLaren Glasgow 27:43; 5, Kilbarchan 'B' 28:08; 6, Aberdeen 28:25. **Fastest:** Wilson 8:15; C. Sheehan (A'deen) 8:32; N. Allison (Glas) 8:38. **Juniors** — 1, Kilmarnock 21:10 (D. Rutherford 7:03, E. Sharp 7:22, M. McClung 6:45); 2, Strathkelvin 21:27 (M. Gemmell 6:59, W. Gorman 7:11, R. Robinson 7:17); 3, Irvine 21:57 (S. Hamblin 7:16, K. Brennan 7:17, S. McDonald 7:24); 4,



LIZ LYNCH

Photo: Alan Edwards

Kilbarchan 22:16; 5, Victoria Park 22:19; 6, Central Region 22:20. **Fastest:** McClung 6:45; J. Cochrane (Kilb) 6:54; Gemmell 6:59. **Girls** — 1, Strathkelvin 22:02 (L. Kerr 7:49, A. Paterson 7:13, V. McDougall 7:30); 2, Aberdeen 22:07 (D. Simpson 6:52, A. Ashman 7:44, L. Walker 7:31); 3, Victoria Park 22:09 (K. Greenlees 7:42, T. Sutherland 7:26, J. Wolfendale 7:01); 4, Ayr Seaforth 22:20; 5, Central Region 22:30; 6, Edinburgh AC 22:37. **Fastest:** Simpson 6:52; Wolfendale & J. Stirling (Carl) 7:01. **Minor Girls** — 1, Aberdeen 13:26 (G. Wilson 4:24, C. Thomson 4:35, S. Gunn 4:27); 2, Carlisle 13:32 (A. Huddart 4:34, C. Metcalfe 4:41, J. Rutherford 4:17; 3, Colzium 13:35 (C. Friel 4:19, L. Erskine 4:49, J. McDowall 4:27); 4, Ayr Seaforth 13:39; 5, Edinburgh WM Southern 13:47; 6, Kilmarnock 14:02.