Brewery sponsored Manx Jountain Marathon looks ike being one of the most eenly contested races for ome years, with at least six unners in with a realistic hance of taking victory in ne of the toughest athletics vents in the British Isles, rites Richie Stevenson.

The Department of Tourism ave again given the event their ill support.

The race will follow the tradi-onal course from Ramsey to ort Erin, a gruelling 31 miles ith 8,000 feet of ascent as it vis-12 summit checkpoints en

Entries are, as expected, down around 20 on 2000, the last me the race was run. The drop numbers was predictable as e sport of fell running is still attling to recover from last ear's foot-and-mouth restric-

sport out for 10 months, resulting in a downturn in interest among competitors.

Another major factor to affect the Manx in particular is the total lack of entries from the armed forces this year, which in the past has been as many as 25.

The last time that no army personnel took part was the year of the Gulf War, so it can only be assumed that the various terrorist problems in the world have resulted in severe restrictions in the events that the army take part in. So all in all, the organising committee is reasonably happy that there will still be over 100 competitors on the Manx hills this Easter Saturday.

Prospects of a local win are still good, with Manx fell cham-pion Tony Okell one of the

The Tromode man has been, pumping in over 100 miles a week in training for the win he

arrive in Port Erin first it will be a just reward for all his hard work.

He will not have an easy time of it though, as he will have to see off three previous winners.

The main threat will probably from Scotland's Colin Donnelly who is still the fastest man ever from Ramsey to Port Erin, albeit on a shorter course than is used now.

The Wales-based former three times British champion recorded a quite fantastic time of 4 hours 2 minutes back in 1980 and then went on to race internationally with considerable success.

He is now in the veterans' class, indeed he was British veteran's champion in 2000, and is definitely one to watch.

The other two previous win-ners entered are Pudsey's Andy Hauser, who has a record five wins to his credit and who can never be written off, and 1996

victor Darren Blacknurst

Former Rossendale runner Blackhurst emigrated to New Zealand a few years ago and is making the long trip back to have another go. Who could ever forget his 1996 win when he sported his amazing hot-cross bun haircut?

The task of all the favourites has been made easier as a result of the withdrawal of Andy Trigg.

The Derbyshire runner who won in 1999 and 2000 has not yet recovered from a broken ankle, but he has already stated he is determined to run next year.

Others in with a good shout include Clayton-Le-Moor's Paul Thompson, who has finished in the top three on two occasions and has really set his stall out for a win this year, and Mandales' Joe Blackett.

There is a doubt over Teesider Blackett though as, although he fully intended running, his entry had not been received by

Clayton-Le-Moor's Kat Thompson could well score his second win in the female cat as defending champio Ruth Pickvance is not entered

weanesday morning

Other locals who may we cause a few surprises are Port Mary's Ian Ronan and Dougla postman Ian Gale. A top 10 fir ish for both would not be a su prise.

The non-competitive jog/wa leaves Ramsey's Market Squar at 7.30am followed by the ru ners at 9.15am.

 Spectators can follow the ru at various spots on the cours with the leaders expected at th following times: Black Ht 10.05am; Bungalow 10.20an Injebreck 10.45am; St John 11.50am; Round Table 1.00pn Sloc 1.30pm; finish opposit Ocean Castle Hotel 2.05pm.

These times are approximat as the conditions on the da could alter times considerably.

ox 18th n British rets race

NDY Fox finished 18th the British Veterans' oss country champiaships at Mansfield in erbyshire last month. On a fast, undulating urse of 10km he recorded time of 34 minutes 17 secnds to finish 15th out of 0 or so runners in the 40 49s class. After a fast start, he set-

ed into the early 20s and as around 25th at lfway. Over the second If of the course he moved rough to 18th, running ell on the hilly stretches. The event was won by

b Hand in 32.17, while e next three home were former England and GB oss country internationas seniors. Andy was proximately one minute wn on the sixth place fin-

larbour uccess or Mike

NATTACHED runner ike Garrett won the estern Athletic Club's el Harbour 10k road run predominantly good conions on Sunday.

Setting a time of 38mins secs for the flat out-and-ck course, he finished t under one minute clear Vets club stalwart Peter oper, with Allan Corran the organising club

sults 1, Mike Garrett (unathed) 38 minutes 18 seconds; 2, ter Cooper (IoM Veteran ran (Western AC) 39.52; 4, Paul es (IoM Vets) 40.25; 5, Alan gley (Manx Harriers) 41.15; 6, vrence Dyer (Northern AC) 27; 7, Martin Bell (IoM Vets) 31; 8, Kevin Martin (NAC) 44.32; lan Pilling (IoM Vets) 44.42; 10, nes Coulson (IoM Vets) 45.32; Pat McCormack (South Coast ders) 46.28; 12, Dave Nixon A Vets) 47.24; 13, Sue Furner Vets) 49.57.

Grandstand start for Athletics event

THE Easter Athletics Festival 2002 kicks off as usual on Friday night with the round-the-houses road race, starting at the TT Grand-

Saturday afternoon sees the events on Peel Hill with everyone moving to the National Sports Centre on Sunday morning for the women's 5km road race and the men's 4x5km road The loss of Joan Powell earlier this year has hit the event, with entries numbering around 130 (roughly 100 men and 30

women) Competitors are still contacting event organiser Colin Halsall, who hopes the figure might push up to 150 by the start of play.

Reigning festival champion and Island resident Colin Moore is injured at the moment and so not running.

Some names to watch out for in his absence include Mick Hill of Doss AC (Leeds Uni), who won the festival himself back in the 90s and is an

English fell running inter-national. Manchester University have Andrew Franklin, an 8 minute 45 second steeplechaser who may well have aspirations to represent England in the Manchester Commonwealth Games.

A dark horse could well be Manx Airlines 10km winner Steve Green of Bingley Harriers. Steve has expressed interest in the event recently and should be turn up will definitely be one of the favourites.

Of the locals, Chris

Quine always goes well on the road and Andy Fox usually pulls out a good performance in the hill race on the Saturday. Injuries have hampered the preparations of two of the old guard - Gianni Epifani and Paul Clarke. It will be interesting to see how some of the Manx youngsters go, with a group of around 10 of them turning out. Watch out for Darren Gray on Saturday and Glenn Butterworth and Kevin Shimell in the road relay on the Sunday. Young Keith Gerrard will

be an interesting athlete t watch, he could certain embarrass a few of th local seniors on Frida

The team races loo wide open, with perhap the two university team of Leeds and Mancheste being the favourites. Man Harriers A team will b quite different this yea but should be up ther competing with the best.

In the women's section no individual or tear stands out and it will b interesting to see who prevails over the weekend.

Numbers down for Easter

From back page

lucky if it sees 130 toe-ing the line including a good number of locals.

The 15th Easter Rugby Festival is, however, holding up quite well. Of the 12 male and female teams entered, half are visiting sides.

The Easter Football Tournament used to attract dozens of teams from around the country. This weekend's fixtures are restricted to two over 35s matches and one under 18 international against visiting opposition.

The traditional Isle of Man Table Tennis Tournament will be staged at the NSC on Saturday and Sunday. This has attracted a number of visiting players including defending champion, Welsh International Steve Hall and gifted top-spin player Stuart Wallace of Scotland.

Other major events taking place over the holiday weekend include two days of motorcycle road racing at Jurby, a full day car rally on Easter Monday and the showpiece Association Cup Final at the Bowl between St Mary's and

Chrystal clear in Spring Handicap

A TOTAL of 44 athletes competed at the NSC last Thursday in the popular Spring Handicap 5km walk and 6 mile run organised by the Isle of Man Veteran Athletes' Club.

Hill race hopeful Andy Fox (JW)

Fortunately, weather conditions were much kinder for the 19 veteran walkers and 25 runners than those which have marred several recent club events.

The first walker away, Geoff Farrant, who was a complete novice last year, took full advantage of a handicap that proved more than generous.

He strode away to record a victory that was obviously just reward for some serious training during the winter.

Geoff's time was five and a half, minutes quicker than that he

SPRING HANDICAP

recorded in the Autumn Handicap last November!

Kevin Tasker, in second place, and Margy Killey, third overall and first woman, also demonstrated significantly improved

They were followed by Peter Kaneen, whose superb time of 21 mins 56 secs was easily the fastest

Collette Chrystal was the very popular winner of the 6 mile run.

Now in the over 60 veteran category, Collette has battled long and hard to make a comeback from serious illness and she ran very steadily to finish over a minute ahead of second-placed Eddie

Next home were Alan Pilling Alan Bagley, Carol Bates and

Vera Jones. Peter Hughes' actual time of 35.11 was the quickest while the closest contest was that fought out between Terry Bates and Kevin Vondy, who started together, ran shoulder to shoulder for the whole distance and crossed the line inches apart!

Thanks to timekeepers Colin Halsall and Bernie Shimell, lapscorers Barbara Bagley, Chris Bathgate, Colin Watterson, Margy Killey and Brenda Charlton, and to Manx Harriers AC for the most welcome use of their clubhouse facilities

Results IoMVAC Spring Handicap 5km walk 1, Geoff Farrant (handicap time 32 minutes 48 seconds) actual time 32 minutes 3 seconds; 2, Kevin Tasker (36.43) 32.03; 3, Margy Killey (37.09) 30.29; 4, Peter Kaneen (37.26) 21.56; 5, Val Kneale (37.36) 32.56; 6, Steve Locking (37.40) 29.10; 7=, Brian Brough (37.45) 34.25 & Doug Allan (37.45) 26.35; 9, John Stubbs (37.55) 27.15: 10. Brenda

Charlton (38.07) 36.37; 11, John I (38.16) 35.46; 12, Marie Latham (38.17) 28.47 13, Mike Kneale (38.24) 34.34; 14, Do Watterson (38.26) 31.26; 15, Karen Locking (38.27) 33.27; 16, Sarah Goldsmith (38.28 36.58; 17, Brian Goldsmith (39.29) 30.59; 18= Ray Pitts & David Chambers (40.00) 32.00. Six mile run 1, Collette Chrystal (handica) time 61 minutes 36 seconds) actual time 6 minutes 36 seconds: 2. Eddie Brew (62.48 44.18; 3, Alan Pilling (64.30) 44.30; 4, Alan Bagley (65.50) 41.00; 5, Carol Bates (66.38 55.38; 6, Vera Jones (66.40) 66.40; 7, Martin Bell (67.04) 41.44; 8=, Alan Corran (67.11 38.31 & Peter Hughes (67.11) 35.11; 10 Maureen Kelly (67.29) 62.29; 11, Arniv Jacobs (67.31) 62.31; 12, Peter Coope (67.47) 37.57; 13, Terry Bates (67.58) 36.58 14, Kevin Vondy (67.59) 36.59; 15, Davi Nixon (68.08) 48.08; 16, Alan Gault (68.27 44.37; 17, Paul Trees (68.38) 39.08; 18 Graham Stigant (69.20) 39.10; 19=, Jame Coulson (69.39) 44.49 & Ken Watterso (69.39) 43.49; 11, Kevin Martin (70.48) 44.18 22, Sue Furner (71.37) 50.07; 23, Ian Chrysta (72 32) 54 02



Top two cannot be separated in **Easter Festival**

ever finish to the Easter Athletics Festival, the two leading finishers in the men's event were inseparable on the stopwatch after three very different events and a total of more than 12 miles.

Andrew Franklin of Manchester University Alehouse Runners won the two road based events, but Steve Green of Bingley Harriers came out on top in the hill race at Peel.

Their composite individual times for the three events was precisely the same - 65 minutes and 19 seconds!

Franklin made the early bow waves in the 5.3 mile Good Friday road race through the streets of Douglas and Onchan, completing the course in 27

Steve Green and Andrew Franklin were inseparable over the three days on time, but Franklin took the Festival title by two submissions to Green's one (John Watterson)

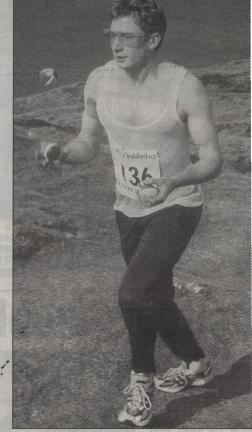
IN WHAT must be the closest minutes 13 seconds to eke out an initial 12 second lead on his Yorkshire

> But Green was on top of his game the following day at Peel where, shout-ed on by Bingley clubmate and 2001 Festival champion Colin Moore, he set a blistering pace for the four-and-a-bit mile course to Corrin's Folley and beyond towards Knockaloe Beg, before returning past the tower and safely negotiating the steep descent to the finish outside the House of Manannan.

At the close he was a full 23 seconds up on Franklin to move into a 12 second lead with the relay still to run.

Both contesting the first leg of the 5km course for their respective teams, it was Franklin who circumnavigated Groves Road, Pulrose Bridge and Peel Road first to cross the finish line in 15m 09s - precisely 12s in front of

Yes, it doesn't come much closer



Some act: Leeds University's Dave Alcock juggled his way to the top of Peel hill and back on Saturday - and he wasn't last to finish!! (JW)

Manx Harriers signing on night

SIGNING on for this year's Manx Harriers track and field league will take place on Wednesday, April 10, in the clubhouse between 6.30 and 8pm.

There will also be a training session at the track. All competitors are asked to attend on this evening and not wait until the first night of the league.

THE Joan Powell Memorial sponsored walk, from Peel to the Manx Harriers club-

Wily Fox and young guns lead the way

THE local performances in the Easter Athletics Festival centred on one seasoned veteran and three vibrant young guns.

Best performer in all three events was the masterful (well, deputy masterful) school teacher Andy Fox of the organising club, Manx Harriers.

Fresh from a fine result in the British veterans cross country championships a week earlier, the 41-year-old scored three solid top six finishes over the weekend.

He was fifth in the Good Friday road race, recording a time of just over 29 minutes for 5.3 miles, then went one place better to grab fourth in the hill race at Peel the following afternoon. Andy was again the fourth fastest individual out of 70 men in the relay to place fourth overall and best veteran in the Festival as a whole, his best ever result in the event.

Celebrating his 16th birthday just four days before the opening event, rising star







Three of Manx Harriers talented young guns (left to right) Darren Gray, Keith Gerrard and Glenn Butterworth ran extremely well throughout the Easter Festival (JW)

Keith Gerrard of Crosby impressive ninth in the lived up to his billing as a seniors-five places down on fired an early warning shot dark horse by finishing a Island Games warhorse by sneaking home 20th in the

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THE Joan Powell Memorial sponsored walk, from Peel to the Manx Harriers clubhouse at the NSC, will be held on Sunday, April 14, at 1.30pm.

Mini buses will be available to take walkers from the clubhouse to Peel at both the start and the finish of the walk. Buses will also be available from St John's and Crosby and full details will be available at the track and field signing on night in the clubhouse on April 10

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Three of Manx Harriers talented young guns (left to right) Darren Gray, Keith Gerrard and Glenn Butterworth ran extremely well throughout the Easter Festival (JW)

Keith Gerrard of Crosby lived up to his billing as a dark horse by finishing a sensational sixth in the Good Friday road race, just five seconds down on Fox.

He sat out the hill race to save himself for Sunday's relay, where he promptly set the fifth fastest time of the morning - this time just two seconds behind leading Manxie Fox.

Darren Gray, whilst no longer a junior, is very much one of Harriers promising new squad of talent and he produced his best ever Easter form to place an impressive ninth in the seniors - five places down on Island Games warhorse Chris Quine. Gray was incredibly consistent, 14th overall in both the Good Friday road race and Saturday hill race, then 15th quickest in the relay which included (as a one-off) Mountain Marathon man Tony Okell in 13th spot.

The third young gun was Glenn Butterworth, who showed great potential in his early teens but appeared to lose his way slightly for a couple of years.

He is most certainly back

now with a vengeance and he fired an early warning shot by sneaking home 20th in the opening event on Friday then moving up to 15th at Peel. His time for the 5k leg of the relay was the 22nd best overall, quicker than Murray Lambden, Bernard Cannan and the star of last year John Halligan. His efforts deservedly won him the junior men's prize overall.

Other local class winners were the aforementioned Murray Lambden (over 45s), Dave Corrin (055s) and Tom Davies (u17s).

Overall class points

Senior men 1, Andrew Franklin (Manchester University - Alehouse) total four; 2, Steve Green (Bingley Harriers) five; 3, Tim Crossland (Leeds University - Doss AC) nine; 4, Chris Quine (Manx Harriers A) 18; 5, Carl Tipton (Man Uni) 19: 6. Manuel Da Silva (Man Uni) 20: 7. Mick Hill (Leeds Uni) 24; 8, Matt Lockyear (Leeds Uni) 32; 9, Darren Gray (Manx Harriers A) 36; 10, Darren Talbot (Man Uni) 39; 11, Kenny Beagley (West Cheshire) 40; 12, Shane Green (Leeds Uni) 41; 13, Ben Dyson (Leeds Uni B) 48; 14, Phil Robinson (MH B) 55; 15, Paul McTigue (Leeds Uni B) 58; 16, Bernard Cannan (Northern AC) 59; 17, Andrew McCoy (Cheltenham AC) 60; 18, Phil Davies (Leeds Uni B0 71: 19, Paul Dixon (Sunderland Strollers) 78; 20, Al Morton (Leeds Uni C) 81; 21, Jonathon Leece (NAC) 84; 22, Robert Gatenby (Leeds Uni C) 86; 23, Robin Hudson (Leeds Uni E) 95; 24, Andrew Owen (Leeds Uni D) 96; 25, Bob Francis (Man Uni) 98; 26, Dave Hulse (Man Uni) 105; 27, Pete Carpenter (Leeds Uni D) 106; 28, Dave Alcock (Leds Uni D) 107; 29, Dave Berry (Man Uni) 117.

Senior women 1, Ruth Schofield (Leeds Uni A) four; 2, Claire McMahon (Leeds Uni A) seven; 3, Karrissa Hawitt (Warrington AC) eight; 4, Helen Garnham (Leeds Uni A) 15; 5, Natasha Cewdrowicz (Leeds Uni B) 16; 6,

Easter Athletics Festival results

(Warrington AC) 22; 8, Lisa Blackman (Leeds Uni A) 33; 9, Sian Roberts (Leeds Uni B) 35; 10, Ellen Patrick (Warrington AC) 36; 11, Rachael Woodnutt (Leeds Uni C) 46.

Andy Fox (middle) had three highly impressive runs to

finish fourth overall and best veteran at Easter (JW)

Veterans over 40 1, Andy Fox (Manx Harriers A) three; 2, Gary Roberts (W Cheshire) eight; 3, Ken Maynard (Sunderland Str) 10; 4, Dave Shepherd (Leeds Uni B) 16; 5, Richard Rogan (Cheltenham AC) 18; 6, Martin Nieman (Leeds Uni D) 27.

Vets o45 1, Murray Lambden (Manx Harriers vets) three; 2, Jan Felce (Stockport Hrs) eight; 3, Robert Blair (Sunderland Str) 14.

Vets o50 1, Len Best (Stockport Hrs) three; 2, Robert Webb (MH vets) nine; 3, Francis Boal (Ballydrain Hrs) 12; 4, Steven Ramsden (Sunderland Str) 15.

Vets o55 1, Dave Corrin (MH vets) three; 2, Vernon Thomas (Greenwick Triathlon) six; 3, John Wilson (Sunderland Str) nine.

Veteran women o35 1, Jean Shotter (Pudsey & Bramley) three; 2, Shirley Moore (MH) seven.
Junior men 1, Glenn Butterworth (MH B) three; 2, John

U17 boys Tom Davies (Manx Odds & Sods) seven.

Men's team 1, Manchester University Alehouse four; 2, Leeds University Doss AC A six; 3, Manx Harriers A eight; 4, Manx Harriers B 16; 5, Leeds Uni Doss AC B 17; 6, Sunderland Strollers 25; 7, Leeds Uni Doss AC C 26; 8, Leeds Uni Doss AC D 30.

Women's team 1, Leeds Uni Doss AC A three; 2, Warrington AC seven; 3, Leeds Uni Doss AC B eight. Men's overall 1, A. Franklin four; 2, S. Green five; 3, T. Crossland nine; 4, A. Fox 13; 5, C. Tipton 22; 6, C. Quine 23; 7, M. Da Silva 25; 8, M. Hill 31; 9, M. Lockyear 38; 10, D. Gray 43; 11, S. Green 51; 12, K. Beagley 51; 13, G. Roberts 53; 14, D. Talbot 55; 15, G. Butterworth 57; 16, L. Best 58; 17, B. Dyson 65; 18, M. Lambden 69; 19, P. Robinson 75; 20, J. Halligan 77.

Other locals 23, B. Cannan 84, 25, K. Shimell 104, 27, R. Webb 113; 29, T. Davies 122; 32, Dave Corrin 131; 34, J.

Women's overall 1, R. Schofield four; 2, C. McMahon seven; 3, K. Hawitt eight; 4, H. Garnham 15; 5, N. Cewdrowicz 16; 6, J. Bailey 20; 7, A. Bartley 24; 8, J.

Patrick 39; 12, R. Woodnutt 51; 13, S. Moore 55.

Men's individual leg times for Sunday's 5km relay
1, Andrew Franklin (Manchester University - Alehouse)
15 minutes 9 seconds; 2, Steve Green (Bingley Hrs)
15.20; 3, Tim Crossland (Leeds University) 16.02; 4, Andy
Fox (Manx Harriers A) 16.14; 5, Keith Gerrard (Manx
Odds & Sods) 16.16; 6, Chris Quine (MH A) 16.37; 7, Carl
Tipton (Man Uni) 16.38; 8, Manuel Da Silva (Man Uni)
16.48; 9, Paul Clarke (Manx O&S) 16.51; 10, Kevin Reilly
(Bohermeen AC) 16.51; 11, Darren Talbot (Man Uni)
16.52; 12, Mark Preston (MH A) 16.57; 13, Tony Okell
(MH) 17.00; 14, Matt Lockyear (Leeds Uni) 17.04; 15,
Darren Gray (MH A) 17.10; 16, Gary Roberts (West
Cheshire) 17.11; 17, Shane Green (Leeds Uni) 17.13; 18,
Gianni Epifani (Manx O&S) 17.13; 19, Mick Hill (Leeds
Uni) 17.18; 20, John Gill (Bohermeen) 17.30.

Other locals 22, Glenn Butterworth (MH B) 17.36; 23, Murray Lambden (MH vets) 17.40; 27, John Halligan (MH B) 17.49; 28, Phil Robinson (MH B) 17.54; 35, Kevin Shimell (MH B) 18.59; 38, Bernard Cannan (Northern AC) 19.06; 40, Matthew Hollis (MH) 19.18; 45, Robert Webb (MH vets) 19.35; 47, Tom Davies (Manx 0&S) 19.43; 49, Dave Corrin (MH vets) 20.04; 55, Stephen Brown (unattached) 20.36; 60, Alan Bagley (MH) 21.22; 61, Jonathon Leece (NAC) 21.34; 67, Kevin Martin

Festival first for Franklin



ANDREW Franklin of Manchester University's Alehouse Harriers won the Easter Athletics Festival for the first time after a close battle with Steve Green of Bingley Harriers.

Ruth Schofield of Leeds University won two events out of three to take home the women's title.

Manx' Harriers own Andy Fox finished a best ever fourth overall to secure the best local performance and the veteran's prize.

Good Friday evening's 5.3 mile road race over the streets of Douglas and Onchan was run in the dark, but there was clear daylight in the win for Franklin who set a time of 27 minutes 13 seconds to cross the finish at the TT Grandstand 12s in front of rival Green, who suffered badly from blisters.

Run of the night had to be that of 16 year old Keith Gerrard of Crosby, who chased Manx Harriers team leader Andy Fox home in a magnificent sixth place - beating one of the pre-race favourites Mick Hill of Leeds University.

Darren Gray, another of Manx Harriers up and coming young talents, also had a fine run to finish 14th, just behind Gianni Epifani and Mark Preston. Glenn Butterworth was another teenager who made it into the top 20 for the organising club.

Manchester University took the team result from Leeds Uni and Manx Harriers A.

First woman home in 32nd place overall was Ruth Schofield, 21s in front of fellow Leeds Uni representative Claire McMahon.

Just a few days after winning the Northern England 20k race walking title, Cal Partington was the best local woman in ninth place.

There was a welcome return to Peel for the first time in two years on Saturday afternoon for the traditional hill race, where the weather was fine and breezy.

Here there was a clear victory for Steve Green in the men's event, who took the race by the scruff of the neck from the off and finished some 23s in front of Friday's winner Franklin.

Andy Fox had another good run for fourth, two places in front of Paul Clarke - whose 'fresh' legs got him ahead of Chris Quine on the descent to the finish. Fast starting Richard Jamieson of the Northern AC was 10th, having initially chased the two leading protagonists up the hill in third.

Again Darren Gray ran very well, but perhaps the best local performance came from the rapidly improving Glenn Butterworth in 15th spot.

Despite the result going Manchester's way in the Premiership football contest half an hour earlier, the team result in the run went Leeds' way on a tiebreak over their Lancashire rivals.

Sixteen year old Karissa Hawitt of Warrington AC took the women's race by three seconds from Friday's winner Schofield. Shirley Moore of Manx Harriers was sadly the only local runner in a field of 17 starters.

Less than 24-hours later Schofield secured the women's Festival title with her second win of the weekend. She wrapped up the honours with victory in the 5km road race at Pulrose on Sunday morning with a clear victory over Leeds University teammate Claire McMahon, with Hawitt a distant third. Best local on this occasion was Dawn Watson in 13th spot, precisely midway in a field of 26.

Meanwhile 20 teams of four toed the line for the men's relay, a quarter of them representing the host club.

The quickest individual times were recorded on the first leg, when Andy Franklin tied up the men's individual honours with a 5km lap of 15.09 - some 11s faster than Steve Green running for the Manx Compos.

Andy Fox was the third quickest on that opening leg with what turned out to be the fourth best time of the day, securing him the veteran's title and fourth overall in the Festival.

Having rested up on the Saturday, the amazing Keith Gerrard had another excellent run to set the Manx Harriers Odds & Sods team up for fourth overall, one behind the A team of Fox, Quine, Gray and Preston.

Out in front though it was Manchester University, led by the indomitable Andy Franklin, who took the honours on the day and overall in fine style.

Good Friday - 5.3 mile road race

Men 1, Andrew Franklin (Manchester University) 27 minutes 13 seconds; 2, Steve Green (Bingley Harriers) 27.25; 3, Tim Crossland (Leeds Uni) 28.49; 4, Carl Tipton (Man Uni) 29.00; 5, Andy Fox (Manx Harriers A) 29.04; 6, Keith Gerrard (Manx Odds & Sods) 29.09; 7, Mick Hill (Leeds Uni) 29.25; 8, Darren Talbot (Man Uni) 29.51; 9, Manuel Desilva (Man Uni) 30.03; 10, Chris Quine (MH A) 30.05; 11, Matt Lockyear (Leeds Uni) 30.18; 12, Gary Roberts (West Cheshire) 30.42; 13, Gianni Epifani (Manx O&S) 30.44; 14, Darren Gray (MH A) 30.45; 15, Mark Preston (MH A) 30.85; 16, Shane Green (Leeds Uni) 31.11; 17, Kenny Begley (W Cheshire) 31.22; 18, Bernard Cannan (Northern AC) 31.30; 19, Paul Curphey (MH Vets) 31.41; 20, Glen Butterworth (MH B) 31.43.

(MH Vets) 31.41; 20, Glen Butterworth (MH B) 31.43. Other locals 23, Murray Lambden (MH Vets) 31.59; 26, Phil Robinson (MH B) 32.12; 31, John Halligan (MH B) 32.26; 32, Kevin Vondy (NAC) 34.01; 33, Tom Davies (Manx 0&S) 34.12; 34, Robert Webb (MH Vets) 34.17; 36, Kevin Shimell (MH B) 34.30; 39, Jonathon Leece (NAC) 34.49; 42, Dave Corrin (MH Vets) 35.07; 47, Paul Trees (IoM Veteran AC) 36.01; 52, Steve Bennett (MH) 37.53; 55, Lawrence Dyer (NAC) 38.30; 58, Alan Bagley (MH) 38.54; 61, Kevin Martin (NAC) 39.44; 63, Alan Pilling (IoM Vets) 40.14. There were 72 finishers.

Women 1, Ruth Schofield (Leeds University) 33mins 48secs; 2, Claire McMahon (Leeds Uni) 34.09; 3, Natasha Cewdrowicz (Leeds Uni) 34.54; 4, Karrissa Hawitt (Warrington AC) 35.16; 5, Helen Garnham (Leeds Uni) 35.48; 6, Joanne Bailey (West Cheshire) 35.54; 7, Jean

Easter Athletics Festival resi

Shotter (Pudsey & Bramley) 36.03; 8, Aimee Bartley (Warrington AC) 36.07; 9, Cal Partington (Manx Harriers) 36.17; 10, Karen Rushton (Southampton City) 37.00.

Other locals 15, Wendy Ross (MH) 40.35; 17, Shirley Moore (MH) 41.27; 20, Ann Cain (MH) 41.55. There were 23 finishers.

Team points - men 1, Manchester University - Alehouse 13 points; 2, Leeds University - Doss AC A 21; 3, Manx Harriers A 29; 4, Manx Odds & Sods 52; 5, Leeds Uni - Doss AC - B 74; 6, Manx Harriers Vets 76; 7, Manx Harriers B 77; 8, Northern AC 112; 9, Sunderland Striders 116; 10, Leeds Uni Doss AC C 119; 11, Leeds Uni Doss AC D 170. Women 1, Leeds Uni Doss AC A eight; 2, Warrington AC 26; 3, Leeds Uni Doss AC B 27; 4, Manx Harriers 41.

Easter Saturday - Peel Hill race

Men 1, Steve Green (Bingley Harriers) 22mins 34secs; 2, Andrew Franklin (Manchester University) 22.57; 3, Tim Crossland (Leeds University) 23.47; 4, Andy Fox (Manx Harriers A) 23.55; 5, Mick Hill (Leeds Uni) 24.25; 6, Paul Clarke (Manx 0&S) 24.28; 7, Chris Quine (MH A) 24.30; 8, Manuel Desilva (Man Uni) 24.41; 9, Kenny Begley (West Cheshire) 24.54; 10, Richard Jamieson (Northern AC) 25.14; 11, Carl Tipton (Man Uni) 25.25; 12, Kevin Reilly (Bohermeen AC) 25.32; 13, Matt Lockyear (Leeds Uni)

25.39; 14, Darren Gray (MH A) 25.51; 15, Glenn Butterworth (MH B) 26.04; 16, Len Best (Stockport Hrs) 26.05; 17, Ben Dyson (Leeds Uni) 26.12; 18, Shane Green (Leeds Uni) 26.18; 19, John Halligan (MH B) 26.27; 20, Ken Maynard (Sunderland Striders) 26.38.

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Other locals 21, Phil Robinson (MH) 26.47; 23, Murray Lambden (MH) 26.59; 26, David Young (Manx Fell Runners) 27.14; 28, Bernard Cannas, (NAC) 27.44; 33, Kevin Shimell (MH) 28.25; 34, Robert Webb (MH) 28.29; 35, Paul Renshaw (MH) 28.32; 38, Jonathon Leece (NAC) 29.01; 40, Dave Corrin (MH) 29.15; 42, Tom Davies (MH) 29.31; 45, Keith Lowe (unattached) 30.16; 48, Paul Trees (IoM Veteran AC) 31.22; 55, Michael Quine (unatt) 34.15; 56, Alan Pilling (IoM Vets) 34.21; 59, Peter Quine (MFR) 34.47. There were 70 finishers.

Women 1, Karrissa Hawitt (Warrington AC) 20mins 01sec; 2, Ruth Schofield (Leeds University) 20.04; 3, Claire McMahon (Leeds Uni) 20.45; 4, Helen Garnham (Leeds Uni) 20.59; 5, Catherine Tomangy (Leeds Uni) 21.20; 6, Natasha Cewdrowicz (Leeds Uni) 21.34; 7, Jean Shotter (Pudsey & Bramley) 21.46; 8, Aimee Bartley (Warrington AC) 22.17; 9, Joanne Bailey (West Cheshire) 23.31; 10, Sian Roberts (Leeds Uni) 23.44. Local finisher 14, Shirley Moore (MH) 26.49. There were 17 finishers.

Team points - men 1, Leeds University Doss AC A 21; 2,

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First woman home in 32nd place overall was Ruth Schofield, 21s in front of fellow Leeds Uni repre-sentative Claire McMahon.

Manx Harriers A.

Just a few days after winning the Northern England 20k race walk-ing title, Cal Partington was the best local woman in ninth place.

There was a welcome return to Peel for the first time in two years on Saturday afternoon for the traditional hill race, where the weather was fine and breezy.

Here there was a clear victory for Steve Green in the men's event. who took the race by the scruff of the neck from the off and finished some 23s in front of Friday's winner Franklin.

Andy Fox had another good run Failty For the had almost eight for fourth, two places in front of Paul Clarke - whose 'fresh' legs got him ahead of Chris Quine on the descent to the finish. Fast starting Richard Jamieson of the Northern AC was 10th, having initially chased the two leading protagonists up the hill in third.

Again Darren Gray ran very well, but perhaps the best local performance came from the rapidly improving Glenn Butterworth in 15th spot.

Despite the result going Manchester's way in the Premiership football contest half an hour earlier, the team result in the run went Leeds' way on a tiebreak over their Lancashire rivals.

Sixteen year old Karissa Hawitt Warrington AC took the women's race by three seconds from Friday's winner Schofield.

Shirley Moore of Manx Harriers was sadly the only local runner in a field of 17 starters.

Less than 24-hours later Schofield secured the women's Festival title with her second win of the weekend. She wrapped up the weekend. She wrapped up the honours with victory in the 5km road race at Pulrose on Sunday morning with a clear vic-tory over Leeds University team-mate Claire McMahon, with Hawitt a distant third. Best local on this occasion was Dawn Watson in 13th spot, precisely midway in a field of 26.

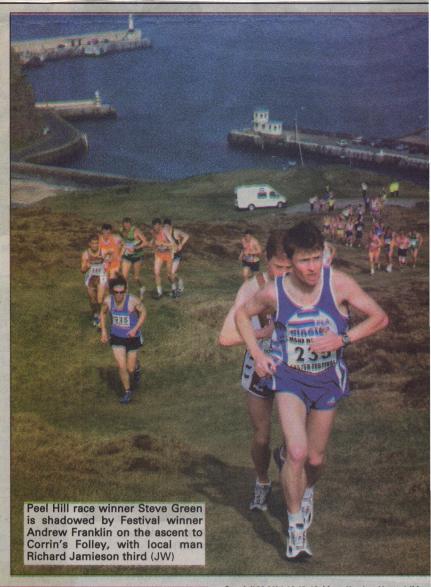
Meanwhile 20 teams of four toed the line for the men's relay, a quarter of them representing the

The quickest individual times were recorded on the first leg, when Andy Franklin tied up the men's individual honours with a 5km lap of 15.09 - some 11s faster than Steve Green running for the Manx Compos.

Andy Fox was the third quickest on that opening leg with what turned out to be the fourth best time of the day, securing him the veteran's title and fourth overall in the Festival.

Having rested up on the Saturday, the amazing Keith Gerrard had another excellent run to set the Manx Harriers Odds & Sods team up for fourth overall, one behind the A team of Fox, Quine, Gray and Preston.

Out in front though it was Manchester University, led by the indomitable Andy Franklin, who took the honours on the day and overall in fine style.



estival results round-up

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Team points - men 1, Leeds University Doss AC A 21; 2,

Manchester Uni Alehouse 21; 3, Manx Harriers A 25; 4, Manx Harriers B 55; 5, Leeds Uni Doss AC B 80; 6, Manx Harriers Vets 97; 7, Sunderland Striders 115; 8, Leeds Uni Doss AC C 129; 9, Leeds Uni Doss AC D 183; 10, Leeds Uni Doss AC E 193. Women 1, Leeds Uni Doss AC A nine; 2, Warrington AC 20; 3, Leeds Uni Doss AC B 21; 4, Leeds Uni

Easter Sunday - 5km road races

Men's 4x5km team relay 1, Manchester University -Alehouse (Andrew Franklin 15 minutes 09 seconds; Manuel Desilva 16.48; Carl Tipton 16.38; Darren Talbot 16.52) overall time 1 hour 05 minutes 27 seconds; 2, Manx Harriers A (Andy Fox 16.14; Darren Gray 17.10; Chris Quine 16.37; Mark Preston 16.57) 1.06.58; 3, Leeds Uni Doss AC A (Matt Lockyear 17.04; Mick Hill 17.18; Shane Green 17.13; Tim Crossland 16.02) 1.07.37; 4, Marix Harriers Odds & Sods (Keith Gerrard 16.16; Gianni Epifani 17.13; Tom Davies 19.43; Paul Clarke 16.51) 1.10.03; 5, Bohermeen AC (Thomas Gill 17.48; Christopher Riley 19.04; John Gill 17.30; Kevin Reilly 16.51) 1.11.13; 6, Manx Harriers B (Phil Robinson 17.54; John Halligan 17.49; Kevin Shimell 18.59; Glenn Butterworth 17.36) 1.12.18.

Other local teams 9, Manx Harriers Compos (Steve Green 15.20; Vernon Thomas 21.47; Matthew Hollis 19.18; Andrew

Grenfell 20.21) 1.16.46; 10, Manx Harriers Vets + 1 (Murr Lambden 17.40; Dave Corrin 20.04; Robert Webb 19.3 Francis Beal 20.20) 1.17.39; 16, Northern Allsorts (Berna Cannan 19.06; Lawrence Dyer 22.32; Kevin Martin 22. Jonathon Leece 21.34) 1.25.31; 17, The Strugglers Composite (Janacek Pisoeky 27.02; Alan Bagley 21.3 John Wilson 25.17; Tony Okell 17.00) 1.30.41. There were 20 teams.

Women's 5km 1, Ruth Schofield (Leeds University 18mins 31secs; 2, Claire McMahon (Leeds Uni A) 18.54; Karrissa Hawitt (Warrington AC) 19.24; 4, Catheri Tomangy (Leeds Uni B) 19.38; 5, Joanne Bailey (We Cheshire) 19.43; 6, Helen Garnham (Leeds Uni A) 19.58; Natasha Cewdrowicz (Leeds Uni B) 20.08; 8, Aim Bartley (Warrington AC) 20.19; 9, Karen Rusht (Southampton City) 20.25; 10, Emma Waterhouse (Lee Uni B) 20.32.

Locals 13, Dawn Watson (unattached) 21.15; 16, Ker Smith (Manx Harriers) 22.14; 24, Shirley Moore (MH) 28.1 There were 26 finishers.

There were 26 finishers.

Sunday team points - Men 1, Manchester University Alehouse one point; 2, Manx Harriers A two; 3, Lee University Doss AC A three; 4, Manx Odds & Sods four, Manx Harriers B five; 6, Leeds Uni Doss AC B six; 7, Lee Uni Doss AC C seven; 8, Sunderland Strollers eight, Leeds Uni Doss AC D nine; 10, Northern AC 10.

Women 1, Leeds Uni Doss AC A nine points; 2, Leeds Uni Doss AC B 21; 3, Warrington AC 25; 4, Leeds Uni Doss AC 61. Overall Festival positions in Friday's Independent