

## The Poppy Run 8<sup>th</sup> November 2015

The Original Poppy Run . A record one hundred and twenty one runners finished The Poppy Run the annual Five Mile Road Race organised by Boston and District Athletic Club in support of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal on Sunday morning. Runners and officials observed two minutes silence at the Club's B Hive base prior to the start of a very well supported 2015 event . A total of twelve mens teams completed the 5 Mile Road challenge and a record seven female teams contested the female team competition with Sleaford Striders A.C.winning the Mens Team Trophies and Boston and District A.C ladies trio victorious in the Female Team contest. "Gold Tops" Fallon Lafferty , Isabelle Whitehead and Emma Penson combined to win the Winners Trophies by finishing some ten points ahead of runners up Skegness & District Running Club. Overall race winner was senior Iain Bailey (Sleaford Striders A.C). who led from the gun to finish in 27mins 15 secs ahead of Spalding based Veteran 40 category trophy winner John Pike representing Newham & Essex Beagles who recorded 27 mins 23secs. In third place was another Veteran 40 runner Mark Sands (Skegness & Dist. R.C.) who was just over half a minute behind the runner up. First lady over the finish line was Fallon Lafferty who spearheaded Boston & District A.C. 's female challenge clocking 34 mins 49secs in seventeenth position to secure the Senior Female Winners Trophy. Judith Broadbent (Lincoln Wellington A.C.) was second female finisher on 36mins 00 secs.in twenty fifth place with Katie Ward (Fenland Running & A.C.) winner of the Veteran Female 35 category (36mins 13secs) , Sharon Gallichan ( Skegness & Dist. R.C.) Veteran Female 45 winner (37mins 49secs) and from the same club Hilary Depper first Veteran Female 55 finisher. First in the Veteran Mens 50 section was Alexander Telfer (Sleaford Striders A.C.) who finished on 34 mins 28secs in fourteenth position overall and Geoff. Hall (Lincoln Wellington A.C.) in twenty fourth position recorded 35 mins 42 secs to secure the Vet . Mens 60 winners trophy. In the team stakes Sleaford Striders A.C. race winner Iain Bailey had support from John Siddens (Veteran 40) in fifth place (29mins 40 secs) with Kevin Garrick (Senior) in seventh position ( 32 mins 01 secs) closing in for an impressive total of thirteen points and a clear victory. In the Female team contest first lady Fallon Lafferty seventeenth had good backing from Isabelle Whitehead in forty second place (38mins 51 secs) and Female Vet. 35 Emma Penson (42mins 09secs) in fifty seventh position clinching the Team Winners trophies for the host Club. The B.A.D.A.C. Mens team in eighth place had James Roark twenty second (35mins 26secs), Owen Msimango forty sixth ( 39mins 31secs) and Vet .60 representative Geoff. Johnson ( 42mins 12 secs )in fifty eighth spot. Other "Gold Tops" outside the team counters were Odette Arundell female vet 35 (44mins 05secs) in sixty sixth position ,and Rebecca Grice senior lady in one hundred and first place clocking 53 mins 18secs.. The 5K Fun Run the curtain raiser to the Poppy Run attracted an entry of over thirty starters with Boston & District A.C.'s Alex Riches following up his Sportshall Athletics achievements the previous day by completing the distance with an emphatic lead.