

Williams wins

Macc Half-Marathon sees another record turnout

FOR the second year in succession a record number of finishers completed the Macclesfield Half-Marathon on Sunday.

In the eighth running of the event over its present course, Nathaniel Williams (North York Moors Harriers) led home a field of 867 runners, to win in a time of 1:09.58, having taken the lead at

the 10-mile stage.

In second place was Andrew Davies (Maldwyn Harriers) in 1:10.14, ahead of Telford AC's Daniel Soltys (1:11.39) who had been an early leader.

Last year's ladies winner Olivia Walwyn (Altrincham) retained her title in a time of 1:19.10 and also took home the medal for Cheshire Half-Marathon Ladies

Champion 2009, finishing in eighth overall.

Tom McGaff (MV50, Wilmslow) became Cheshire Half-Marathon men's champion, with his seventh place overall finish in 1:18.53 setting a new course record for the MV50 category.

A new course record was also set in the MV45s by Wilmslow's Rob Downs, clocking 1:13.55.

Christine Howard (Matlock) was fastest FV35 in 1:23.33, with Belle Vue Racer Alison Sedman the first FV40 home in 1:28.40.

Unattached runner Mavis England became the race's first-ever FV65 finisher in 2:10.02.

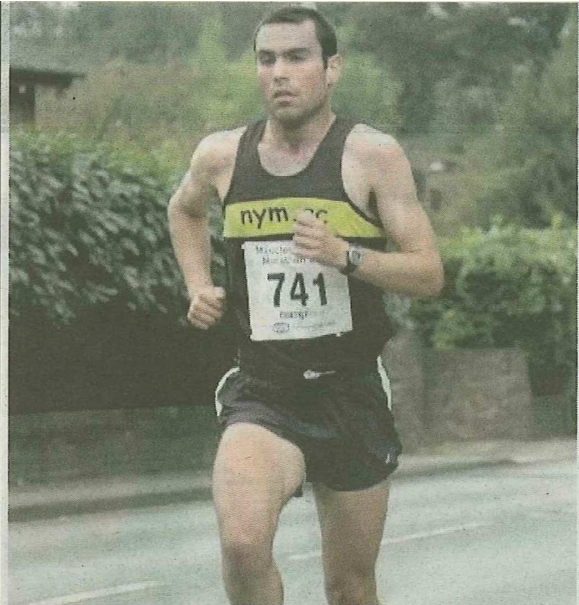
The first Macclesfield Harriers home were 11th-placed man John Mooney (MV50) in 1:21.09 and, in the ladies' division Macc Harriers was Sally-Ann Hales (FV45) who was 13th placed lady in 1:37.41.

The race was sponsored by local Engineering firm Simon Carves and by Macc-based sports retailer CampFour.

The event generated more than £8,000 for the East Cheshire Hospice, Macmillan Cancer Support and the Macclesfield Athletics Track Appeal.



ON THE RUN: Daniel Soltys leads eventual winner Nathaniel Williams at the three-mile point.



Race winner Nathaniel Williams, of North York Moors Harriers

Runners set race record

by Rhiannon McDowall

RUNNERS from across the country pounded their way through the town for the annual Macclesfield Half Marathon.

A record number of 867 runners completed the 22k course, organised by the Macclesfield Harriers, raising a massive £8,000 for charity.

An impressive number of future athletes also donned their trainers to hit the one-mile track for the fun run, while Mayor of Macclesfield Councillor Thelma Jackson, and Macclesfield MP Sir Nicholas Winterton, watched from the wings.

Organiser Phil Janaway said: "This was a fantastic effort by all concerned.

"Well done to all the run-

ners, so many of whom expressed their gratitude to marshals on the route and at the finish. We like to think of this as a fun race."

He added: "The race was organised by volunteers from Macclesfield Harriers, all of whom deserve thanks for giving up their time to allow others to run.

"We would also like to acknowledge the support received from Macclesfield Leisure Centre, St John Ambulance Cheshire, East Cheshire Raynet and Cheshire Police, without whom the event could not take place.

"Thanks also to our sponsors, Simon Carves and CampFour, and supporters Running Bear and John Honey Physiotherapy."

■ For sports coverage, turn to page 48.