



The Doynton HARD HALF Marathon

Emersons Green Running Club



DHHM2020 plus one week

A week ago the race team was having a minor fret about weather, the whereabouts of the club wire-cutters and the sighting of a slightly menacing looking cow on the course in the days leading up to the race. As it turns out we think it all went quite well. It wasn't completely without mishap; the frost made it a bit fiddly in places and a few of you went off-course to find another hill to play with (disappointed uncles on standby) but most importantly: nobody suffered any injuries beyond a few scrapes and bumps and everyone seemed to be smiling. Phew!

Results and pictures

In case you haven't found them, the DHHM2020 race results are here:

<http://dbmaxresults.co.uk/16421/Doyntonhardhalf2020>

And race photos (over 2.5k), courtesy of Resound Camera Club, are here:

<https://www.flickr.com/groups/dhbm2020/>

Gushing thanks to our volunteers

We're always a little in awe of the amount of time and effort that the volunteers seemingly happily put into DHHM and knowing where to start with the excessive "thank you" messages is difficult, which is why we usually gloss over it a bit. This year, there are a few specific people to name as not mentioning them for another year would just be ill-mannered so here goes:

- **Vic** for the excellent coordination of the 130+ race volunteers who not only all turned up on the day but also knew exactly what to do and where and when to do it
- **John** for designing, building and managing race HQ on the race weekend and making sure it was just like it needed to be at all times
- **Joe, Graham** and **Matt**, the lead marshals who had to learn, run, sign, check and sweep their section of the route.
- **Pete** (Land Rover/villager Pete) – for moving so many tediously annoying heavy things around Doynton for us (usually twice!)

Thanks, you're very terrific indeed!

There are of course another 124 volunteers and if you volunteered in any other way then thank you so much - you're amazing!

... and to the Landowners

DHHM is made possible with the help, approval, patience and tolerance of many landowners whose land we use. They let us cut their fences, make a (temporary) mess of their paths, hide their animals for the day and generally change their daily habits to accommodate us. How brilliant is that! Thanks to you all!

Charity

While we keep a small portion of the race proceeds to replace damaged equipment (and building more to support the ridiculous vision for next year) we always give the lion's share to causes local to Doynton. We don't usually share this detail but a few people have asked so: our donation fund for 2020 is £1100 and will be shared as follows:

Beneficiary	£
Cotswold conservation board	300
Air Cadets	200
Doynton defibrillator fund	300
Doynton Playing field committee	200
Friends of Summers Field	100

We also received generous donations of £400 from runners when signing up for the race via the on-line entry system. These donations will be passed on to *Cardiac Risk in the Young* with additional funds of around £520 from Emersons Green Running Club which were raised via other fund raising activities that took place in 2019.

Finally, the DHHM tea & cake stall raised £659 which will be donated to the Doynton defibrillator fund and The North Bristol Food Bank.

DHHM2021 – a date for your diary

It seems likely that DHHM will happen next year and that it may well be on 17th January 2021. Keep an eye on the race Facebook page for a nail-biting countdown and other race-related nonsense. There's the most amazing hill that isn't in the route yet but really really has to be 😊.

A very fond farewell

After 5 years at the helm, the DHHM race director is stepping down to focus on his career as an erotic dancer and would like to say 'bye' before he leaves. His background is Software Delivery Management but he also enjoys wandering around fields and bonding with trees. He used to be quite fit but is a bit wobbly these days due to his love and appreciation of fine ales and dry-roasted peanuts. Until recently he's been using DHHM2020 as an excuse to not get another contract but is now faced with the stark reality that he can't afford to retire yet. If you need the sort of person who can envision, manage and deliver something really complicated (not just running races) then get in touch 😊.

Contacting us

DHHM has changed every year and will continue to do so to keep it fresh, lively and exciting. The best ideas come from... everyone! If you have an idea about DHHM, would like to join Emersons Green Running Club for a run, or would just like to say 'hello' then please get in touch we'd love to hear from you.

The race web site www.doyntonhardhalfmarathon.co.uk and the race Facebook page www.facebook.com/doyntonhardhalfmarathon. We aim to promptly reply to all messages that we receive on the Facebook page and the race email address dhhm@emersonsgreenrunningclub.co.uk.

Finally, *thank you* for supporting our race xxx

Lots of love from
The DHHM Race Team
Emersons Green Running Club