



**Northhants 34  
Lampport Hall  
7<sup>th</sup> June 2009**



As the runners gathered in the grounds of the impressive Lampport Hall the concern was whether people would end up with webbed feet rather than blisters as the rain was torrential.



Happily, by the time the field had gone through the first check point at Cortesbrooke Hall and had progressed through the second at Naseby the skies had started to clear and the rest of the day was ideal running conditions apart from the odd squelchy bit in the fields courtesy of the earlier down pour.

The early pace was being set by Andrew James and David Jelley who went through Checkpoints one and two together reaching CP 2 in 4 minutes over the hour with the ladies being led by Sarah Nason and Anna Finn who arrived at CP 2 20 minutes later.

After Naseby the field headed south and west to Silsworth, the halfway point of the course, which unfortunately a group of 4 runners missed but were enjoying the run enough to get back on course for the next check point at Althorp House which was set up on the main entrance to the estate. At Althorp Andrew and David were still together reaching that point in just over 3 hours. However, Sarah now led by 18 minutes and had broken away from Anna who was now running with Audrey Norbury.



By now competitors were getting used to the range of country homes, history and lovely countryside that Northamptonshire has to offer and the clearing weather was allowing some great views of the rolling hills

From Althorp the runners made for Holdenby Hall famous for have been built for Elizabeth I and onto the final checkpoint at Teeton Hall.



By now Andrew James has established a pretty commanding lead and finished in an impressive time of 4.45.59 followed home by David Jelley in 5.05.09 and Mark Collinson in 5.11.05 in third.

Sarah continued to lead to the finish and completed the course in 6.34.51 who was followed in by Go Beyond event regular Anna who finished alongside Audrey in a time of 6.59.43.

This was the first running of the event and the first Ultra race in the county, the staff at Lamport were fantastic and feedback from the competitors was positive, especially about the cake! (as usual)

With the continued support of Lamport Hall this looks like an event that will grow from its year one entry of 54 and into a regular feature in many race calendars