

The annual South East Runners' half marathon and fun run events, sponsored by Cliffs, were held last weekend at a new venue, from Twilight Beach. Conditions were great for both competitors and spectators.

There were five events to suit all levels of fitness, ranging from a 5km walk to the 21.1km run.

The half-marathon course comprised 3 laps of a 7km course, over the undulations and turns of the path from Twilight Beach to Salmon Beach and return. Thirty three competitors took up the challenge of the event. Local runner Shannan Dixon led all the way to finish in a time of 1:27:01. Shannan was pushed hard initially by Brian Sylva, who unfortunately retired injured partway through the race. On the last lap Kalgoorlie runner Andrew Malatios made up quite a bit of ground, and crossed the line for second place a mere 10 seconds behind Shannan. David Clark, also from Kalgoorlie, finished third in 1:30:50.

The female winners for the half-marathon were all from Kalgoorlie. Jody Brownley was first to cross the line in 1:32:34 and was the 4th overall finisher. Pam Foulkes-Taylor was second in 1:36:56 and Whitney Atkinson was third in 1:43:26.

The 10km race was hotly contested by state representatives Stuart Caulfield from Esperance, and Douglas Foulkes-Taylor from Kalgoorlie. Douglas took an early lead but was soon overtaken by Stuart who took the line honours. Stuart's winning time was 33:45, with Douglas finishing in 34:12. In third place was Brad Stewart from Perth, who ran in 38:36. The prize for the first junior male went to SER member Patrick Rae, who ran 48.09.

The first female to finish in the 10km race was Sarah Howarth in 42:56. Second place went to SER member Sharlene Smith in 52.21, and third place to Jolene Last in 56.32.

There was a field of 30 in the 5km run, including 16 junior runners. Line honours, first female and first junior female prizes went to 15yo Jessie Eltringham in a great time of 20.14. Another junior, 14yo Kali Houlihan was second female and second junior female. Kali's time was 23:14. In third place was Kali's grandmother and no doubt inspiration, Pam Williams, in a time of 23:17. Third junior female to finish was Zoe Maccan, from South East Runners, in a time of 25:53. Special mention must also go to the youngest competitor on the day, 6yo Stella Wildberger, who ran the 5km hilly course in a time of 35.59.

The winner for the 5km men's event was Dave Revell in 21:22. Third place went to Peter O'Mara in 22:02 and third place to Thomas Rae in 25:31. For the junior males, SER member Adam Maccan took out first place in 25:38. William Wildberger, who is nearly 8 years old, had a sensational run to be the second junior male to finish in 27:49 and Ben Murgatroyd was third in 35:14.

The first finisher in the 10km walk was Terry Landers, in 1:13:56. In second place was Joanne Halliday in 1:22:08, and in third place were Anita Norwood and Kylie Terrell, who crossed the line together.

David Eltringham had an impressive win in the 5km walk, crossing the line over 9 minutes ahead of the rest of the field. David's time was 30:16. Second place and first junior went to Jack Sharpe in 39:32 while third place went to Jason Houlihan pushing his son Finn, in 42:05.