

Quantity and quality are both missing from road race relay event

SANDY SUTHERLAND

TRADITIONALLY the main trial for clubs who are serious contenders for the prestigious Edinburgh to Glasgow road relay, the Allan Scally Memorial road relay, which was won by Hunter's Bog Trotters at Baillieston, Glasgow, on Saturday, was a pale shadow of former glory days.

A combination of rising costs and disinterest from clubs, only 45 men's teams finished, compared to more than twice that

number in the past, and even the host club, Shettleston Harriers, were missing key members, must raise question marks about the future.

The women's race, won by St Andrew's University, had only seven complete teams and was more like an all-student event.

Only Mizuno, who defend the Edinburgh-to-Glasgow title over the somewhat controversial new route starting at Inglis-ton and finishing at Glasgow Green on November 24, displayed any strength in depth,

finishing with two teams in the top four.

Ominously for the others, the Edinburgh club still have Tom Hanlon, who was south at a training weekend, as well as A C Muir still to come in.

Trotters, who gave their city rivals a close run in last year's eight-stage Edinburgh to Glasgow, will be pleased to have put one over on Mizuno. They were helped by the return of Phil Mowbray, who was second fastest in 23.21 over the third stage, Steve Cairns having led

off in 23.17, and Andy Hart maintaining their lead (23.54).

Welsh Commonwealth Games steeplechase finalist Don Naylor (23.46) took them home with only 11 seconds to spare over the pursuing Glen Stewart, a finalist in both 5000 and 10,000 in Manchester, who set off 1.35 behind and whose 22.22 for Mizuno was easily the fastest of the day.

Shettleston, without Graeme Wight, Billy Coyle and the spectating Adrian Callan, were

third and Mizuno B fourth.

Allan Scally Memorial road relay

(4 x 4.5mils) 1 Hunter's BT (S Cairns 23.17, A Hart 23.54, P Mowbray 23.21, D Naylor 23.46) 1-34:18; 2 Mizuno (D Gardiner 23.49, M Colligan 24.16, F McGowan 24.02, G Stewart 22.22) 1-34:29; 3 Shettleston (M Graham 24.10, S Gibson 24.18, A Little 24.57, J MacKay 25.09) 1-38:34; 4 Mizuno B (D Beagley 24.36, A Robson 24.43, S Campbell 25.02, D Ross 24.21) 1-38:42; 5 Irvine 1-40:36; 6 Strathclyde Univ 1-40:47; 7 City of Edinburgh 1-40:48; 8 Ronhill Cambuslang 1-41:15. **Fastest lap** G Stewart 22.22. **Women** (3 x 4.5m) 1 St Andrews Univ (M Vaggars' 32.32, J Whitson 32.49, E Lent 31.04) 1-36:25; 2 Edinburgh Univ (C Waterhouse 30.43, E Wardlaw 31.37, A Stewart 35.21) 1-37:41; 3 Glasgow Univ (E Patrick 31.39, S Martin 32.56, A Frame 34.06) 1-38:41. **Fastest lap** E Kinraide (Bellahouston) 29.52.

Allan Scalley road relays, Baillieston, Glasgow

Men (4 x 4.5 mile) 1 Hunter's Bog Trotters 1:34.18

(S Cairns 23.17, A Hart 23.54, P Mowbray 23.21, D

Naylor 23.46), 2, Mizuno 1:34.29, 3 Shettleston

1:38.34 **Veteran** Giffnock North 1:57.05 **Fastest** 1 G

Stewart (Mizuno) 22.22, 2 Cairns 23.17, 3 Mowbray

23.21 **Veteran** D Millar (Irvine AC) 24.33 **Scottish**

Universities Ch'ships Strathclyde 1:40.47

Women (3 x 4.5 miles) 1 St Andrews Uni 1:36.25 (M

Vaggers 32.32, J Whitson 32.49, E Lent 31.04), 2

Edinburgh Uni Composite 1:37.41, 3 Glasgow Uni

1:38.41 **Fastest** E Kinraide (Bellahouston Road

Runners) 29.52



Picture: **Ross Graham**

Harriers ladies third win

By **Maurice Coyne**

IT was left to the ladies to come up trumps during the Alan Scally Road Relay on Saturday as they took first place for the third year in a row.

With Harriers' top performers Frank McGowan and Graham Wight competing in Birmingham, the under-strength men had to settle for fourth position in the four by five mile race which began at Bannerman High and went through streets such as Glasgow Road, Gartocher Road and Buchanan Street before eventually finishing in Baillieston Main Street.

Pre-race favourites Mizuno Racing Club could only manage second place, being beaten by Edinburgh rivals Hunter's Bog Trotters.

So the glory for the day in the East End came in the women's race, run over three laps, which saw the trio of Lindsay McNeil, Frances Florence and Pam McKay take first place by beating both Edinburgh University and Falkirk Victoria Harriers.

This Saturday the ladies team will have a chance to rest their legs with a development day at Crownpoint



Picture: **Ross Graham**

□ **ONE OF A TRIO...Lindsay McNeil**

Stadium. The day has been designed to attract new members, discuss training ideas as well as being a chance for members to socialise.

Both men's and women's sections are welcome to attend the day which begins at noon.