

HEARDY'S HALF

Now I'll tell you a story, And this one is quite true,
About how Bideford half got started, And of how it grew and grew.

'twas way back in 93, I'd just ran Taunton's race,
The organization fantastic, I'll do that back my place.

When I got home I cycled, Over hill and dale,
Trying to find the elusive route, Thought I was going to fail.

Then suddenly it clicked, How could I be so silly,
It's obvious to do the course, Turn back at the Puffing Billy.

Feeling so excited, Did rough measure of the route,
Adjusting start and finish, This is going to suit.

Got the man up properly, To sort the course out right,
Got the mile marks sorted, The beginning is in sight.

People said a waste of time, They won't come to the north,
I said if the race is good enough, The runners will come forth.

So we started back in 95, The first one went ok,
Since then we've change this and that, Until it's like it is today.

Each year we make small changes, To make the race improve,
People come from near and far, We're really on the move.

Now I know we had a hitch this year, A very very sad day,
The race that I first started, be sent a different way.

People pay their money, And train so very hard,
Now they are disappointed, I hope this race ain't marred.

Please come back to Bideford, A plea right from my heart,
It won't happen again, So come back to our start.

Because we reached the limit, Some people couldn't run,
So for those who were unlucky, It's now 1300so more can have some fun.

So see you athletes next year, I know it's a far off way,
But while waiting for it to come around, Run our 10k in
May.....

Alan Heard
New race director.