

Historic win for Lasswade young female athletes

After more than four decades of trying to reach the top of the podium at the Lindsay's National Cross Country races Lasswade Athletic Club finally made the breakthrough at Cumbernauld over the weekend.

In the Young Females race Isla Madhra, Cerys Wright and anchor Bethan Kitchen stormed to first place ahead of Giffnock North and Strathearn Harriers.

The trio, whose winning margin was 23 seconds, are coached by Linda and Kirk Smith and the former said it was a particularly proud occasion.

She said: "The athletes are great to work with. We had to change the team but Bethan came in and had a really strong run as well as Isla and Cerys.

'Looking back over the years we had a strong team around the time that **Sarah Tait** and **Lauren Dickson** were coming through – but the best they managed was fourth, so just missing the podium.

"The athletes are chuffed today and have been rewarded with chips from the van on the course! No, seriously, they work hard and support each other and for a club like ours to have champions at the National XC Relays feels special."



The winning Lasswade trio show off their trophy



The joy of winning is etched on the face of Bethan Kitchin after anchoring Lasswade Young Females to success. PHOTO Bobby Gavin