

Race Reports: Races Recently Reported in The Local Press

Anniversary Waltz

Todmorden Harriers took a trip to the Newlands Valley in Cumbria last Saturday to compete in the Anniversary Waltz fell race.

This year's race, a counter for both the English and British Championships, attracted an enormous field of 579 runners, all eager to tackle the tough ascents and rocky descents of the Newlands Horseshoe, which incorporates 3600 feet of climbing.

Conditions were pleasant for the start of the race in Stair Village, but this was soon to change as the competitors scaled the first fell, Robinson, to be greeted with bitter winds and heavy mist which made navigation tricky.

For the remainder of the 11.75 mile course, visibility was variable and a fair few runners suffered after making navigational misjudgments.

The race was won by Bingley Harriers' Rob Jebb in 1.31.00, with Christine Howard, of Matlock, winning the ladies' race in 1.48.31.

First Harrier home, in 39th place overall, was Chris Smale, followed by Andrew Wrench in 49th place and Shaun Godsman in 58th.

Following an exciting tussle with team-mates Alice Heath and Sharon Godsman, Jane Smith's excellent descending skills saw her lead the local ladies' team home, all in very respectable times of under two and a half hours.

Unfortunately, the men's team was weakened after Jon Wright sustained an ankle injury, but was still able to claim 10th place, bringing the team into 6th place overall in the English Championships at this stage of the competition.

The veteran 40 men's team had cause to celebrate, taking 3rd place in their category and climbing up the English Championship table to share joint 2nd place with Clayton-Le-Moors.

Bluebell Trail 10

The latest round of Todmorden Harriers' Club Championship moved to West Vale last Saturday for the Bluebell 10 Trail race. The race, ran on an eclectic mixture of canal towpaths, rural footpaths and woodland trails, attracted a bumper entry of 271 runners, 30 of these from the Todmorden club.

Despite the muggy conditions times were fast, the course record being broken by the winner, Karl Grey of Calder Valley in a time of 1:03:09.

The nature of the course attracted a large contingent of 'off road' specialists and the first two Harriers home were names more usually associated with the fell running scene, Jon Wright in 7th place, and Andrew Horsfall in 11th.

Another notable performance came from Melanie Blackhurst who improved her previous best for the race by over five minutes to finish in 6th place in the ladies race, which was won by Carol Greenwood of Holmfirth Harriers.

The one black spot on the day for Tod was a nasty ankle injury to Alex Whittem, which was of a severity to force him out of the race. The club are keeping their fingers crossed for a quick recovery as Whittem could be vital in scoring points to assist in the club's push for English Championship fell running points.

BLUEBELL 10

	07/05/2006	63.09	64.41	65.3	
		Time	Adj Time	GP Pts	Road Pts
7	Jon Wright	68.47	68.47	93.7	93.7
11	Andrew Horsfall	70.36	68.06	94.6	91.3
14	Nick Wigmore	71.20	71.20	90.4	90.4
21	Mark Goldie	73.45	73.45	87.4	87.4
28	Jeff Walker	77.52	77.52	82.8	82.8
32	Paul Brannigan	79.08	76.20	84.4	81.4
36	Derek Donohue	79.35	73.59	87.1	81.0
39	Keith Parkinson	79.58	70.55	90.9	80.6
49	Andrew Bibby	83.54	74.24	86.6	76.8
50	Peter Bowles	84.11	84.11	76.6	76.6
58	Richard Blakeley	85.54	68.57	93.5	75.0
64	Mel Blackhurst	86.42	74.40	86.3	74.3
83	Alice Heath	89.16	80.40	79.9	72.2
94	Colin Duffield	90.16	87.43	73.5	71.4
108	Richard O'Slivan	92.15	87.03	74.0	69.9
110	Rachel Skinner	92.36	83.41	77.0	69.6
120	Sarah Glyde	93.55	84.52	75.9	68.6
121	Lynne Griffiths	94.16	76.42	84.0	68.4
128	Stuart Boulton	95.15	87.53	73.3	67.7
139	Claire Duffield	97.25	88.02	73.2	66.2
147	Mel Siddall	98.12	81.29	79.1	65.6
148	Janine Wigmore	98.14	88.46	72.6	65.6
149	Moyra Parfitt	98.23	67.48	95.1	65.5
158	Tina Smith	100.12	90.33	71.2	64.3
167	Heather Simpson	101.14	91.29	70.4	63.7
179	Dave O'Neill	104.38	95.48	67.3	61.6
183	Nigel Hanson	105.20	94.57	67.9	61.2
186	Derek Ctterbuck	105.54	73.45	87.4	60.9
187	Laura Sutcliffe	105.59	95.47	67.3	60.8

ANNIV**WALTZ**

	22/04/2006	1.31.00	1.31.49	1.33.31	
		Time	Adj Time	GP Pts	Fell Pts
39	Chris Smale	1.43.54	1.39.05	101.3	96.6
49	Andrew Wrench	1.45.24	1.42.24	98.1	95.3
58	Shaun Godsman	1.46.09	1.46.09	94.6	94.6
107	Andrew Horsfall	1.52.50	1.48.37	92.4	89.0
145	Martin Roberts	1.56.31	1.44.49	95.8	86.2
159	Jon Wright	1.57.14	1.57.14	85.6	85.6
209	Nick Wigmore	2.01.05	2.01.05	82.9	82.9
291	Mark Harris	2.07.52	2.07.52	78.5	78.5
309	Phil Hodgson	2.09.28	1.55.17	87.1	77.5
315	James Riley	2.10.05	2.10.05	77.2	77.2
370	Richard Leonard	2.17.35	2.05.00	80.3	73.0
386	Andrew Bibby	2.22.54	2.03.18	81.4	70.3
409	Jane Smith	2.26.42	1.56.08	86.5	68.4
423	Alice Heath	2.28.40	2.14	74.7	67.5
433	Shaun Godsman	2.29.02	2.14.41	74.5	67.4
446	Rhys Watkins	2.30.47	2.26.29	68.5	66.6
448	Dave Wilson	2.31.00	2.13.05	75.4	66.5
466	Wayne Morrison	2.33.15	2.28.53	67.4	65.5
514	Mel Blackhurst	2.38.48	2.16.46	73.4	63.2
515	Mandy Goth	2.38.57	2.07.26	78.8	63.2
541	Claire Duffield	2.45.16	2.29.21	67.2	60.8
568	Derek Clutterbk	3.13.39	2.04.29	80.7	51.8