

Coming up in the Grand Prix championship

Three GP races in May coming up, and another four in June - something for all tastes, including a couple of short local fell races for club members looking to build up their experience of racing.

Saturday May 3rd is the date for the Coniston fell race, which as usual is being held over the May Day bank holiday weekend. Coniston is a nine-mile horseshoe race from Coniston village, taking in Coniston Old Man (of course) as well as Wetherlam and Brim Fell (don't be tempted on to Dow Crag, however). Already quite a few Toddies are planning a camping weekend in Coniston to link in with the race (more information on the forum or on pack run evenings). Get your race application in soon, though, as the race may fill up. Get the entry form and more details from www.conistonfellrace.org.uk

You won't need to go further than Mytholmroyd for the race the following weekend. The Mytholmroyd Fell race, organised by Halifax Harriers, is a seven-miler (1350') on our own much loved moors. 11.30am start. This should be an entry on the day race.

May's road race is the Hendon Brook 13.5, in the roads round the back of Nelson and Colne. This hilly route has featured in our GP before. Entry form hopefully with this Torrier, if we can track one down.

June starts promptly with a choice of two races on Sunday June 1st. If it's a fell race you fancy, the Saddleworth race involves a three mile dash up and down Alderman hill (Pots and Pans stpnes) near Greenfield (just past Diggle and Delph, and really not far away). 12 noon start. Entry on day only.

The same day (not June 3rd as originally published in the Torrier) is the Roberttown 7 mile road race. This is another old favourite for many. Just beyond Brighouse.

Sun June 15th is a long fell race, the Kinder Trog (16m/3490 ft), starting from Hayfield scout hut. This was in our GP last year, and all the reports were very positive. It involves a traverse of the Kinder downfall, but is a longer and somewhat more challenging route than the Kinder Downfall race which some in the club ran in April. Details of the route (including a profile) are at <http://www.cs.man.ac.uk/temples-bin/hc.pl?a=prof&d=hc&f=kinder-trog>. Entries on the day only (makes a refreshing change...)

Finally, the Blackstone Edge short fell race just at the back of our hills near Littleborough is on Sat June 28th. This is an English championship race this year, so you really will need to get your booking in urgently. Send a standard FRA booking form in to Kevan Shand, 13 Chichester Close, Smithy Bridge, Littleborough, O15 8QL, together with a cheque for £4. We don't know who to write the cheque to but we're guessing that 'K Shand' will do.

And of course: the Three Peaks on April 26th (entries closed)

Enter your races ASAP

For some reason running has suddenly become popular and all races are filling up fast, even non championship races. So don't leave it till last minute enter NOW.