

30th Anniversary

This year is the 30th anniversary of the founding of Todmorden Harriers

As a part of the 30th Birthday celebrations we are planning a 30k route around Tod.

The provisional date for this is Saturday 21st June.

It will be a slow social run, certainly not a race. It will be split into manageable stages of 5-10 miles, with designated start times for each section so you can run as little or as much as you like.

So keep your diary free, as we want to see as many as possible turning out and running at least a part of the route.

Keep an eye out for other 30th anniversary celebrations in future Torriers

Hot Toddy 2007

There's always some puzzle; this year it's – how come, when 319 runners complete the Hot Toddy, only 148 show up for their hot toddy? And in 2007 it was not that the pub failed to produce the stuff: not that the hot toddies were difficult to find (they were served at the bar, just inside the pub door): not that all the runners were under 18 (though rumour does have it that an under age runner came in half way down the field – watch out for him in about 5 years time when he's 18).

But there's no puzzle as to why this was the smoothest run Hot Toddy this century: a fine and accomplished team, mainly but not exclusively members of Tod Harriers, all focussed on ensuring a good event. There's lots of them, and they're all evidently happy to be put upon time after time.

319 runners was yet another increase, maybe we're seeing a resurgence of interest in running. What really pleased me was the 61 fun runners, many of them juniors, virtually a 40% increase on the number in 2006. We just need to get more of them into fancy dress next year.

I guess we'd have had fewer if Saturday's rain had continued to the Sunday: and my personal preference would have been for it to be bit colder. But things ran well: there were no glitches at the pub: the Mayor did her bit, Gordon Rigg's tangerines were all good, the Hot Toddies were fine, the results were produced quickly (and accurately) and the presentation went off well.

Despite the clement conditions, this was not a year for records. A new winner: a really good run in 2nd place: definitely not a new women's winner – will we have to give Sue an endurance prize next time? And some commendable runs in the Fun Run – hopefully some of these youngsters will want to stick with Tod Harriers.

Same again in 2008: Sunday 28 December, the White Hart, Fun Run at 10 30, Hot Toddy at 11 00. And we'll try to ensure that food is available.

Thanks to all.

Peter Ehrhardt. 5 Jan 08.