

Recent Press Reports (by Richard Butterwick)

Tod News 24/07/08 (Kentmere/Oakworth Haul/Widdop)

Todmorden Harriers once again battled against the best runners in the country as they travelled to the Lake District for the Kentmere Horseshoe Race, which this year formed round four of the English Fell Running Championships.

This classic 12 mile circular route takes in over 3000ft of total ascent including a steep unrelenting climb up Ill Bell and the summits of High Street and Kentmere Pike. The dry but breezy weather made near ideal conditions with good visibility for the 500 plus runners who were led home by John Heneghan of Pudsey and Bramley.

Chris Smale continued this year's solid form with 15th place to reinforce his position in the overall standings. He was followed in by teammates Alistair Rhodes Dawson in 77th with Dave Collins rounding off a busy week in 108th.

Ali Richards used her local Lakeland knowledge to good advantage on the way to crossing the line as 11th lady, just a few seconds over the 2 hour mark, with Kath Brierley and Claire Duffield not far behind to sustain the Ladies team's strong showing in this year's championships.

The previous weekend had seen 16 Harriers make a shorter trip for the Oakworth Haul. This 6 mile race, held in conjunction with the Oakworth Gala, was the latest instalment in the club's own fell championship.

Despite some tricky navigational challenges, Dave Collins put in a strong performance to take first in the V50 category and 5th place overall, pursued home in 9th, and 2nd V50, by Martin Roberts and Simon Galloway in 13th place.

Kath Brierley was first Todmorden lady in 25th place and winner of the LV40 category, with Mel Blackhurst taking 2nd place in the same category. The club's sizeable prize haul was added to further by Derek Clutterbuck, first V70, and Ian Stansfield, first V60.

On Wednesday a handful of Harriers joined the near 100 strong field for the Calder Valley Fell Runners organised race at Widdop. The tough 7 mile tussock littered moorland route takes in over 1200 feet of climbing. Dave Collins was once again first Todmorden man home in 19th place overall with Elise Milnes coming in first Todmorden lady in unseasonably unpleasant conditions for the time of year.

Tod News 31/07/08 (Turnslack/Moonraker 10k/Chernobyl 10k/Moors the Merrier/Oxenhope)

With no major Championship races last weekend, many Todmorden Harriers took the opportunity to have a break from racing whilst others found alternatives ways of enjoying the sunshine.

There was no slacking off, however, for the three Harriers who competed in the Turnslack Fell Race near Summit on Saturday. This tough 8 mile course features over 2000 feet of ascent and is considered one of the most testing of the local fell races with several streams, stiles and bogs to negotiate. Starting from Calderbrook Church the race climbed up Turn Slack Hill before making its way across open moorland to reach Freeholds Top. The return route descended via Ramsden Wood Reservoir before taking in a couple of steep climbs over Ramsden Hill and Noon Hill, at times requiring runners to resort to scrambling up the grassy inclines on all fours. The day was made even more challenging by the hot sunny weather which may have accounted for a smaller than normal field of just 65 runners, who were rewarded at the finish with a refreshing cold hose down. One man who revelled in the heat was Salford International runner John Brown who came home in 63:24, nearly 7 minutes ahead of second placed Karl Grey of Calder Valley.

Todmorden's Andy McFie put in an excellent run to finish in 12th place overall and 4th V40 in a time of 81:02. He was followed in by Mick Craven who put in a solid performance with a strong finish that pushed him up the field to 33rd in 90:26, ahead of Richard Butterwick in 39th.

The following day a trio of Todmorden runners travelled to Middleton for the Moonraker 10k which attracted a field of 188 runners. In a race won by Ian Grimes of Newham & Essex Beagle, Bohuslav Barlow was first local man home in 102nd place in a time of 50:01. He was followed in by newcomer Carl Heald competing in his first road race in 132nd and Ian Stansfield in 178th.

Meanwhile, Eric Emerson completed the Chernobyl 10k at Preston in a creditable time of 43:32 to finish 66th out of 310 finishers.

At Mytholmroyd several Harriers took on an endurance test in the 'Moors the Merrier' challenge. Organised by the Long Distance Walkers Association entrants had the option of walking or running either along route of 27 miles, or a 'short' option of 21 miles. Starting from the Community Centre, both routes took participants around the moors above Mytholmroyd and Hebden Bridge. Whilst Elise Milne, Graham Milnes and Rachel Lockley took on the shorter route, itself a major undertaking, Colin Duffield battled against the difficult conditions to complete the long route in 5 hours 57 and finish in 8th place.

The previous Saturday had seen another trio take on the Oxenhope Village Fete Race. The scenic 3 mile route followed a wet circuit around the village and nearby reservoir. Martin Roberts had a fine run crossing the line in 3rd place just 13 seconds behind the winner and also took the first local male award. Sue Roberts won the corresponding prize as first local lady finisher. The third Todmorden runner was Ian Stansfield in 20th place overall and first V60.

Tod News 07/08/08 (Borrowdale/Cliviger 6)

Todmorden Harriers joined the elite field of 460 fell runners that gathered on Saturday for the Borrowdale Fell Race, a counter for both the British and English Fell Running Championships.



The 17 mile race starts and finishes at Rosthwaite taking competitors up 6500ft of total ascent over some of the hardest Lakeland terrain including Bessyboot, Great Gable, Dale Head and England's highest mountain Scafell Pike whose rocky summit was treacherously wet underfoot.

Weather conditions were relatively good for much of the route but low cloud made navigation difficult with even some of Britain's top fell runners struggling to find their way. Rob Jebb had led the race until Great Gable but after losing considerable time on the descent allowed Simon Booth from Borrowdale Fell Runners to take the win for a record 10th occasion in 2.49.50. This added challenge also led to a high number of retirements from the race with nearly a tenth of the starters not completing the full distance, making the Todmorden performances all the more creditable.

Triumphing against the hard going in 39th place was Todmorden's first man home, Jon Wright. He was followed in by team mates Alistair Rhodes-Dawson in 127th and just a few minutes further back by Chris Smale, and Phil Hodgson who along with Dave Collins and Mick Craven contributed to the V50 team finishing in an exceptional 5th place.

For the ladies Chris Preston was first over the line. After warming up on Tuesday with the 6.5 mile Whalley Nab Trail race, she completed the testing Borrowdale course with an excellent placing as 32nd lady. Jane Leonard continued a fine season finishing as 41st lady.

Closer to home it was the roads of Cliviger that tempted four Harriers to pull on their running shoes on Sunday morning for the 30th Cliviger Recreation and Community Association's 6 mile race. Starting at Mount Lane Sports Field the hilly route travelled via Red Lees Road towards Burnley before crossing Towneley Park and returning to the start via the main Todmorden road and a tough final climb up Red Lees.

First of the 115 runners completing the course in the warm conditions was Marc Hartley for Staffordshire Moorlands AC in 33:22. Finishing in 98th overall and as first female V50 was Myra Wells in 55:06, ahead of Katie Jukes who was competing in her first race for the Todmorden club. A previous finisher of the New York Marathon, Katie completed the shorter distance in 57:07. For the men, Richard Butterwick was first Harrier home in 27th place, in a time of 40:02, followed in by Kevin Coughlan in 45:43 and 59th place.

Tod News 14/08/08 (Crow Hill/Golf Ball/ EC Update)

Many Todmorden Harriers turned out to assist race organiser Clive Greatorex for the Crow Hill fell race at Mytholmroyd last Tuesday. With no let up in the heavy rain all evening it was probably a more attractive proposition to be running rather than marshalling the course. The 5 mile race which is a favourite with many runners climbs up from Mytholmroyd to Crow Hill, with a total ascent of 1000 feet, before returning to the finish with a steep descent back through the woods. It was no surprise that local runners excelled in the increasingly all too common poor conditions for this summer, with Calder Valley's Karl Grey eventually triumphing over Todmorden's Chris Smale. Harriers' Chairman Mandy Goth, who is more usually seen competing in long and ultra races, completed the short course in 57th place with Dave O'Neill hot on her heels in 58th. Afterwards at race HQ in Mytholmroyd Community Centre, Clive thanked all the helpers.

The following night a pair of Harriers took part in Rossendale Harrier's Golf Ball fell race, named after the distinctive landmark structure passed on route. The 140 runners were led in by Andy Buttery from the host club. Simon Galloway had a strong run for Todmorden to finish in 44th place with Jeremy Godden in 82nd.

With just one race to go in the English Fell Running Championships the Todmorden club are once again well placed in several categories and may yet have their best showing. The Ladies team lie in 4th place, with some good individual standings, including Ali Richards in 23rd position overall and Chris Preston in 36th. Jane Leonard is currently in 3rd place in the Ladies V50 category.

Chris Smale is also holding 3rd place in the men's V40 class. The men's V50 team are also having a good season and are currently ranked in 6th place.

This year's Championships will close with a short steep race at Dufton at the end of this month.

Tod News 21/08/08 (Lakeland 100 & 50/Sedburgh Hills/Worsthorne Moor/Pilgrim's Cross)

Todmorden Harriers sent representatives to take part in the Lakeland 100 and the Lakeland 50, a pair of ultra long distance running challenges that are sure to become landmark events in the future.

This was the inaugural running of this event and attracted 30 competitors for the 100 miler and 41 competitors for the 50 miler. It certainly lived up to the expected reputation of being the toughest race in Britain. Although it follows tracks and paths for the entire route these are often very rough and rocky. The combination of rough terrain, exacerbated by torrential rain during Saturday which made many of the paths more like rivers, navigational skills required, night running and 24,000 feet of ascent/descent added up to a gruelling test of strength and endurance.

Only 11 competitors finished the Lakeland 100 race, which was won by Steve Birkenshaw who led from the start and amazingly achieved his objective of getting under 24 hours. His phenomenal time of 23 hrs 40 mins will take some beating. Nick Gracie and Warren Bates came in joint second in 27hrs 03mins. Todmorden Harriers, Ozzie Kershaw and Phil Hodgson, had an impressive run to come in joint sixth in 29hrs 44mins.

Most of the competitors completed the Lakeland 50 despite the tough conditions. The race was won by Gerrard Moore and Phillip Pearson in 12hrs 3mins, an outstanding time in such bad weather. Over an hour separated them from the next group of 4 runners who came in together in joint third. Todmorden Harriers, Richard Leonard and Rhys Watkins were the next runners home, putting in a great performance to win the team prize in a time of 14hrs 35mins.

A pair of Harriers travelled to the Howgills on Sunday for the Sedburgh Hills Fell race, a 14 mile circuit that takes in 6000 feet of ascent with several climbs including the highest point, the Calf, and visits the impressive Black Force waterfall. Despite suffering shoe problems, Alistair-Rhodes Dawson managed to hold on for 23rd place in a time of 2 hours and 40 minutes. Kath Brierley had to contend with the mist and drizzle that came along as she finished around an hour later.

Closer to home, also on Sunday, several Todmorden runners tackled the local Worsthorne Moor Fell Race. In the ladies race, Elise Milnes finished in 17th place with a time of 61:03, pursued two minutes later by Rachel Lockley in 20th. In the Men's race it was just as close with Graham Milnes, in 91st, edging out Derek Clutterbuck in 95th and Ian Stansfield in 97th.

The previous Wednesday Chris Smale was the lone Harrier to contest the Pilgrim's Cross Fell Race. In a highly competitive field, Chris comfortably took the honours in the V40 category, finishing just over a minute behind the overall winner, Michael Corbishley from Rossendale.

Tod News 28/08/08 (Whittle Pike/Norland Moor)

Whittle Pike was the destination on a wet Wednesday evening for the 20 Harriers who joined a record field of 170 runners at Cowpe for the 4½ mile fell race. The course, which has previously hosted the English Championships, is reputed to have no flat sections and features several climbs and steep descents which were made even more treacherous by the muddy conditions underfoot.

The heavy downpour that greeted the start did nothing to dampen the pace, or the spirits, as the race started with a rapid dash up a ½ mile road section before climbing sharply into the fells. John Brown of Salford led an elite group up to the high point at Whittle Pike which was lost in cloud, with Todmorden's Andrew Wrench and Chris Smale in close attendance. On the descent though, it was Pudsey's Gary Devine who held his nerve on the severe ground and finished nearly a minute ahead of Brown in a time of 41:57. Andrew Wrench crossed the line in 3rd place with Chris Smale 7th. Sean Carey continued his progress in senior races and won the U16 category, finishing 11th overall. In the team standings Todmorden narrowly missed out to Rossendale.

First Todmorden lady to finish was Kath Brierley whose lightening descent was rewarded with 2nd in the LV45 category and 7th lady overall. She was followed in by Mel Blackhurst, who won the LV40 prize, and Helen Hodgkinson which resulted in a 3rd place for the ladies team. Prior to the main event, several junior races were held which whilst run over shorter distances were just as testing. Todmorden's Jack Crummet again showed good promise and ran an excellent race to win the U10 race.

Improved weather was welcomed on Sunday for the seven mile Norland Moor Trail Race, as many Harriers completed a double for the week. The varied terrain course started with a lap of the Old Rishworthians rugby pitch before it climbed stiffly up through woodland and along a bridleway. A short road section then led onto a loop around Norland Moor. This was followed by a stony descent down to and across the River Calder and ended with a fast flat finish that returned the runners to the rugby field. Andi Jones of Salford won the race in a new record time of 40:28, five minutes ahead of his nearest rivals. Nick Barber led the Todmorden contingent home in 13th place in a time of 51:03, having gained several places in the latter stages. Kath Brierley was again first Todmorden lady with another dazzling descent that landed her the LV45 prize.



Tod News 4/09/08 (Dufton/Blackshaw Head)

The final English Championship fell race on Saturday at Dufton saw some excellent performances from Todmorden runners, particularly from the ladies team. With the race also being a counter for the British championships it was a very select field that took on the 5 mile course in good conditions, from the agricultural show field.

The ladies' race was won by Natalie White of Bingley Harriers in a time of 35:56. First Todmorden lady was Ali Richards in 26th place; rapidly followed over the line by Claire Duffield in 28th and Kath Brierley in 33rd. Chris Preston finished as 2nd lady V40 and 41st overall.

The men's race was won by John Heneghan of Pudsey & Bramley in 28:55, a time many runners would be happy with on the flat, but with 1500 feet of steep ascent and descent squeezed in between it was an impressively fast pace. Not far behind was the first Todmorden man home, Chris Smale, who rounded off an excellent showing in this year's championship with another solid run.

Closer to home, many Harriers were either involved in the organisation of, or took part in, the Blackshaw Head Fete Fell Race. Whilst the fete itself suffered from a waterlogged field, it did nothing to deter the 64 runners that lined up for the 5½ mile course. The leading group of five runners that included both Sean Carey and Nick Barber in contention for the win took a wrong path mid way through the race and lost valuable time. Unfortunately, too much time and effort had been lost and despite strenuous attempts they were unable to regain the front of the race. Local resident Greg Elwell running in the colours of Halifax Harriers triumphed in 43:04.

First Todmorden Harrier to finish was Nick Barber who recovered back to 8th place just over a minute behind the winner. With top future prospects Sean Carey in 12th and Matt Crowley in 18th not far behind, they narrowly landed Todmorden the award of first team ahead of neighbours Calder Valley. Sean added to this season's growing credits as he pipped his club mate to the U18 prize which was some consolation for the lost places in the overall placing.

First lady home was Todmorden based, but unattached runner, Lauren Jeska in 49:35. The first Harrier lady was Paula Haworth, who along with Sarah Moss and Rachel Allen combined to take the honours as first ladies team.

Tod News 11/09/08 (Stainland 7/Leeds Half Marathon/Ben Nevis/Grisedale Horseshoe/Helvellyn Tri)

The latest chapter of Todmorden Harrier's road championship was contested over Stainland Lions' tough undulating 7 mile course on Sunday. After a fast downhill start the route climbed steadily upwards to Barkisland before three steep hills in the last couple of miles tested runners' stamina to the limit. The race was won by Ben Mounsey of the host club in 41:34. After Richard Butterwick had led the Todmorden contingent round, Paul Brannigan made a supreme push on the final steep rise to take the honours as first Todmorden finisher. The event's unofficial reputation as a 'fell race on the roads' even persuaded Jeremy Godden into his first road race and he was rewarded by breaking the hour mark.



However, it was the ladies who walked away with armfuls of prizes. Claire Duffield transferred her recent excellent fell performances to the road as she finished as 3rd lady overall. Mel Blackhurst followed her in as 4th lady, and 1st V40, and together with Elise Milnes Todmorden took the ladies team prize. Moyra Parfitt added another V60 win to round off a very successful outing.

Sunday also saw three Harriers tackle the roads of Leeds for the reprieved half marathon. First Todmorden runner home was Nick Barber in an excellent time of 1 hour 21 minutes with Rachel Lockley and Katie Jukes also completing the course.

On Saturday, several Harriers were in sunny Scotland tackling the Ben Nevis race that attracted a quality international field, as it was also part of the World Sky Running Championship. In pleasantly warm dry conditions, 450 runners set off to the strains of a traditional pipe band straight up to the top of Britain's highest peak before the torturous descent back down to Fort William. Spaniard Agusti Roc won the prestigious race by just 13 seconds ahead of Bingley's Rob Jebb who had led for nearly all the race. Todmorden's Andrew Wrench and Jon Wright did the club proud finishing in 23rd and 24th places respectively with just 11 seconds separating them after a close battle throughout. Andrew Horsfall was third Todmorden runner to finish, squeezing home under the 2 hour mark.

Less comfortable weather was experienced in the Lake District on Saturday for the Grisedale Horseshoe at Glenridding. The normal 10 mile route, with over 5000 feet of ascent, had to be extended by a mile due to a swollen river and 78 runners braved the gale force winds and poor visibility. Amongst them Todmorden runner Ali Richards navigated brilliantly through the wet conditions to finish an exceptional 2nd lady. Kath Brierley and Sue Roberts finished together enabling the ladies to secure the team prize. James Riley was the sole Todmorden male entrant with a quality performance that was close to matching his previous best time, despite the extra distance.

Proving that variety is the spice of the club, three Todmorden Harriers were amongst the 500 who managed to complete the Helvellyn Triathlon on Sunday. Justifiably ranked as one of the toughest triathlons in the country the event held no fear for the local trio that took on the multi-disciplinary endurance challenge. Starting with a mile swim in the ever cold Ullswater, competitors then transferred to their bikes for a hard 38 mile ride including a steep climb out of Ambleside over Kirkstone Pass that would not be out of place on the Tour de France, before a 9 mile fell run over the summit of Helvellyn. Simon Anderton, competing in this event for Rochdale Tri, finished in 177th in 4 hours 7 minutes. Just 3 minutes behind was Sarah Warburton, continuing her superb development in the sport, in 199th overall and after taking several places on the run finished as 10th female. Simon Galloway was the third Todmorden finisher a further 5 minutes back in 233rd.

Tod News 18/09/08 (Yorkshire Man Full & Half Marathon/ Langdale Half Marathon)

Many Todmorden Harriers made a short trip to Haworth but for a long race on Sunday. The Yorkshireman off-road marathon and half marathon were both held on Sunday on exceptionally muddy terrain. The full event covers the traditional 26 mile distance but with the added challenge of over 3000 feet of ascent including an uphill finish to the top of the cobbled main street. The half distance is a longer half and included over 1750 feet of ascent. Provisional results indicated that Nick Barber and Ben Crowther were first Todmorden runners to finish the full marathon in an excellent time of 4 hours 18 minutes closely followed by Derek Donohue. Afterwards runners were able to relax and enjoy the traditional Morris Dancing entertainment in Haworth but resisted the temptation to join in.

Six Harriers travelled to the Lake District for the 20th anniversary of the Great Langdale Half Marathon which attracted 450 runners including Ron Hill MBE and runners from as far away as South Africa. Billed as Britain's most scenic road race, the circular route travelled the hilly roads of the Langdale Valley and featured several steep climbs. The weather was kind and after a sunny start, much of the race was run in ideal dry cloudy conditions. This event was also paired with a full marathon, consisting of two laps of the course, but the Todmorden entrants limited themselves to the single lap which counted towards the club's road championship. The race was comfortably won by Paul Muller of Horwich RMI Harriers in 1:17:50 nearly 5 minutes ahead of the next competitor.

First Todmorden runner was Richard Butterwick followed by Mel Blackhurst, running the course for the 4th consecutive year and beating her previous best time by 4 minutes. Ian Stansfield celebrated his 65th birthday, wearing race number 65.

Tod News 25/09/08 (Good Shepherd/ Brown Wardle Hill)

Good weather greeted the 90 runners for the Good Shepherd Classic Fell Race on Saturday. The 15 mile race which finished at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Mytholmroyd raised funds for the Rainbow House orphanage in Poland. The route started at Dauber Bridge and climbed directly up to Stoodley Pike before dropping down to Withens Clough reservoir. A wild moorland loop was then followed taking the runners past the Cloven Stone and along Warland drain before descending to London Road. A second steep climb up to Stoodley Pike was followed by a descent to Cragg Vale before the last section past Robin Hood Rocks to reach the finish.

The race was comfortably won by James Logue of Horwich RMI in just over 2 hours. First finisher of nine Todmorden runners was Dave Collins in 13th place overall and winner of the Vet 50 category. He was followed in by Ben Crowther in 20th and Peter Bowles in 39th. First Todmorden lady, and 6th lady overall, was Mel Blackhurst with Moyra Parfitt completing the course as 1st Lady Vet 60.

On Tuesday five Harriers joined a field of 63 to celebrate prolific race organiser Andy O'Sullivan's 25th anniversary race at Brown Wardle Hill. The 5 mile scenic course was run over varied terrain of road, trail and fell including a climb up Brown Wardle Hill. Rossendale's Andy Buttery won the race in a time of 32:10. Martin Roberts finished first Harrier in 11th place narrowly edging out team mate James Riley. Phil Hodgson came in 24th with Jeremy Godden in 32nd. Sole Todmorden lady entrant was Mandy Goth in 54th.

Elsewhere at the weekend, Todmorden Harriers were spread wide and far with Lucy Hobbs finishing 53rd of 174 runners and an excellent 5th woman at the Kirkstall Valley trail race in Leeds. Ian Stansfield tackled the Boggart Chase 10k and Peter Ehrhardt completed the Pennington Flash 5 Mile Trail Race.

Tod News 2/10/08 (Ron Hill 70th/ Three Shires/ Whernside/ Thieveley Pike)

Running legend Ron Hill was joined by around 500 other runners in celebrating his 70th birthday with a 5k race in Littleborough on Thursday evening. Whilst he maintained his remarkable record of taking a daily run for the past 44 years he was unable to claim to be the oldest runner in the race, with over 10 others more senior taking part including Todmorden Harriers Derek Clutterbuck and John Newby.

After a short delay whilst a live TV interview with Ron was carried out by BBC local news, the start was broadcast live giving runners the added challenge of dodging the camera crew on the crowded starting straight.

A fast and furious penultimate race in Todmorden Harriers road championship developed as Duncan Ritchie turned up the heat on Richard Butterwick, who currently heads the standings, to ensure that the title will not be decided until the final counter in November.

In the quest to be ladies road champion, Claire Duffield applied similar pressure upon current leader Mel Blackhurst to close the gap at the top, although the honour of first Todmorden lady on the night went to Kath Brierley with a sensational sprint finish.

In the club's fell championship races are coming thick and fast with last weekend's Whernside race being preceded the week before with the Three Shires fell race. The championship will reach its climax with the Bronte Way Fell race next weekend at Haworth.

Andrew Wrench is putting in a strong late challenge to try to dislodge English Championship Bronze Medallist Chris Smale from the top spot. Long time ladies leader Kath Brierley has also come under some recent late pressure from Ali Richards and the destiny of both titles will go to the wire.

In the Three Shires race, the Harriers had an excellent showing with two runners, Jon Wright and Andrew Wrench, placing in the top ten of a 300 plus field. Ali Richards also put in an excellent performance to finish 8th lady.

The modern Lakeland Classic, which was celebrating its 25th anniversary, takes in a 12mile route from Little Langdale over Wetherlam, Pike O'Blisco and Lingmoor with over 4000ft of ascent.

Although some mist was encountered on the summits early on, the sun shone brightly as the race unfolded. However, wet conditions persisted underfoot as even the recent dry spell had not been enough to mask the effects of the exceptionally wet summer that had nearly forced the cancellation of the event.

After a close race Ricky Lightfoot of Ellenborough was the overall winner in just under 2 hours. Not far behind was first Todmorden man Jon Wright who finished in 6th place edging out team mate Andrew Wrench. Alistair Rhodes-Dawson completed another solid run in 26th place to earn the Todmorden team 3rd place.

Starting and finishing at the village of Dent in the Yorkshire Dales, the Whernside Fell Race was another tough 12 mile test with Andrew Wrench leading in the Todmorden runners in 6th place.

Closer to home on Saturday, the Thieveley Pike Fell Race attracted almost 100 entrants to its short steep 4 mile course that climbed up from Holme Chapel in Cliviger. Calder Valley runners Ben Mounsey and Shaun Godsman held a clear lead from team mate Alex Whitem throughout before Mounsey managed to open up a small gap at the finish to take the win.

A late decision to switch from the junior race to the senior course proved profitable for Todmorden's Sean Carey, who despite making the wrong footwear choice, was still able to finish in 11th place overall and first U16. Matt Crowley also switched to the senior race and finished 2nd U16 and 40th overall. Jane Leonard finished 2nd lady, and 1st LV50, after holding off a strong challenge from Rossendale's Karen Taylor throughout the race. The ladies race was won by Sharon Godsman of Calder Valley.



Contributions

Please pass onto Mandy (mandy@todharriers.co.uk) or Andrew (andrew@andrewbibby.com)

We would especially like any photos

I know there's lots of you out there doing all sorts of interesting things - please please write about it

Cheers

Mandy

Welcome to New Members

**Rachel Allen
Phil Cook
Lauren Butler**