



# TORRIER

FEB/MAR 07



TODDIES AFTER THE PENNINE BRIDLEWAY RELAY



**HELP  
YOUR CLUB  
NEEDS YOU**

**MARSHALS WANTED**

**FOR THE NOON STONE  
FELL RACE  
SATURDAY 3RD MARCH 12.00  
Top Brink Inn Lumbutts**

**Please contact Andrew Horsfall ASAP  
as there is only a week to go and he  
still needs at least 10 marshals  
Ring him on 01706 818623**



# Mandy's Page

## Pack Runs

**Wednesdays  
7pm start**

**FEB— MASON'S, BACUP RD  
TODMORDEN**

**MAR—QUEEN, BURNLEY RD  
CLIVIGER**



**THERE WILL BE BAT  
RUNS EVERY WEDS  
PACKRUN  
BRING A HEADTORCH**

## AGM

**At the AGM all officials were  
re-elected unopposed**

**Subs were set at £12 +  
“NoeAA” levy which this year  
will be £3.00 for those who  
want to raec on the road.**

## Welcome

**To new members**

**John Preston  
Rachel Henthorne**

## Interval Work

**Tuesdays at 6.45pm**

**FOR THE NEXT MONTH AT  
LOB MILL**

**Training is aimed at improving your  
hillwork and recovery rates.**

**Those who have been going through  
the winter have begun to see some  
definite improvements.**

**So come along and give it go.**

## Juniors

**Mondays  
Session £1  
From**

**5.30 — 6.30 8yrs—11yrs**

**6.30 — 7.30 11yrs +**

**Juniors 11+ must have a visibility vest/  
jacket to go for a run.**

## Kit

**Available from  
Jane 01706 818663**

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**Will revert to 7pm on Mondays**

**First Monday of every month at the Queen Hotel, Todmorden**

**All welcome come along and pass your ideas on.**

# GRAND PRIX RESULTS

## STANBURY SPLASH

28/01/2007 44.29 45.01 47.05

	Time	Adj Time	GP Pts	Fell Pts
19 Mark Goldie	50.41	50.41	89.8	89.8
22 Paul Brannigan	53.17	50.49	89.6	85.4
28 Dave Collins	54.48	47.47	95.3	83.1
37 Martin Roberts	55.44	50.08	90.8	81.7
58 Peter Bowles	57.42	57.42	78.9	78.9
62 James Riley	58.30	58.30	77.8	77.8
71 Ben Crowther	59.16	59.16	76.8	76.8
73 Phil Hodgson	59.21	52.19	87.0	76.7
77 Alison Richards	59.43	53.58	84.4	76.2
86 Andrew Bibby	60.26	51.35	88.3	75.3
92 Chris Preston	60.59	51.19	88.7	74.7
95 Richard Leonard	61.31	55.20	82.3	74.0
105 Derek Donohue	62.23	56.41	80.3	73.0
112 Sharon Godsman	63.15	57.10	79.7	72.0
117 Kath Brierley	63.28	51.32	88.3	71.7
119 Jeff Anderson	63.43	59.03	77.1	71.5
126 Neil Hodgkinson	64.17	64.17	70.8	70.8
135 Richard Blakeley	65.21	48.54	93.1	69.7
139 Mel Blackhurst	65.29	55.45	81.7	69.5
167 Dave Wilson	69.06	60.16	75.5	65.9
170 Jennifer Porter	69.12	58.14	78.2	65.8
173 Lynne Griffiths	69.20	54.53	83.0	65.7
183 Peter Ehrhardt	70.32	55.30	82.0	64.5
185 Sue Roberts	70.49	58.12	78.2	64.3
190 Jane Smith	71.35	55.13	82.4	63.6
194 Claire Duffield	72.15	65.18	69.7	63.0
202 Jeremy Godden	73.27	66.05	68.9	62.0
206 Moyra Parfitt	73.54	47.01	96.8	61.6
211 Dave O'Neill	75.04	66.51	68.1	60.6



## LIVERSEDGE 1/2

11/02/2007 73.56 75.02 78.5

	Time	Adj. Time	GP Pts	Road Pts
106 Andrew Bibby	99.45	87.44	86.6	76.1
113 Mel Blackhurst	100.17	85.35	88.7	75.7
162 Jeff Anderson	105.24	98.44	76.9	72.1
193 Rachel Skinner	107.44	97.22	78.0	70.5
213 Peter Ehrhardt	110.11	91.06	83.4	68.9
224 Stuart Boulton	111.23	01.59	74.5	68.2
335 Derek Clutterbuck	125.33	87.26	86.9	60.5

## RADCLIFFE TRAIL

18/02/2007 1.10.23 1.12.13 1.12.34

	Time	Adj Time	GP Pts	Road Pts
7 Alex Whittam	1.13.55	1.13.55	97.0	97.0
29 Dave Collins	1.23.47	1.14.55	95.7	85.6
40 Andy McFie	1.25.53	1.25.53	83.5	83.5
56 Keith Parkinson	1.29.12	1.18.27	91.4	80.4
73 Richard Blakeley	1.34.10	1.14.49	95.9	76.2
89 Sarah Glyde	1.37.50	1.28.25	81.1	73.3
92 Jeff Anderson	1.38.25	1.32.12	77.8	72.9
124 Stuart Boulton	1.44.51	1.36.00	74.7	68.4
151 Claire Duffield	1.52.02	1.41.15	70.8	64.0
160 Moyra Parfitt	1.53.36	1.17.16	92.8	63.1
172 Charlotte Woodhead	1.57.54	1.46.33	67.3	60.8
173 Mel Siddall	1.57.54	1.36.55	74.0	60.8
176 Derek Clutterbuck	2.00.33	1.23.57	85.4	59.5



# Grand Prix Information

## The next five races:

### **Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup> Don Morrison Memorial Edale Skyline Fell Race**

21m/4500' (AL)

Start 10.30 am from Edale Village Hall, Derbyshire (GR123853).

*Entries are now closed for this event. Please see elsewhere in the Torrier for further information on the route and grid refs.*

### **Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup> Ackworth ½ marathon**

Start 10.30 am from Village Hall, Low Ackworth, Pontefract

Entry form in this issue. Online entry also available on Runners World website.

Closing date for pre-entries: March 10<sup>th</sup>

*According to the reviews, this is a well-organised event with friendly and encouraging marshals and plenty of water stops. The course is scenic and undulating and a couple of the roads can feel quite exposed on windy days. Parking can be a little difficult, but a free bus has been laid on in the past for transport to the further out car parks.*

### **Saturday March 31<sup>st</sup> Midgeley Moor Fell Race**

5m/1250' (AS)

Start 11.00 am from Booth Cricket Club, Booth, Halifax

£3.50 on day only

*On- and off-path course over heather moorland. Flagged between start of race and Brownhill, between checkpoints 4 and 5 and from checkpoint 6 to finish. Route choice between other checkpoints. The organisers state that previous fell running experience and navigational skills are required and full body cover, map and compass must be carried.*

Checkpoints:

Start Opposite Dean House Farm (GR039269)

1 Crow Hill (GR022277)

2 Trig Point, Sheepstones Edge (GR014278)

3 Wall corner, Dimmin Dale Edge (GR019288)

4 Stile, Wood Lane (GR026285)

5 Wall corner, Midgley Moor (GR023281)

6 Stile, Brownhill (GR032269)

### **Easter Friday April 6<sup>th</sup> Caldervale 10**

Start 1.00pm from Caldervale Village Hall, Caldervale Village, Garstang

Entry form in this issue. Online entry also available on Runners World website.

Closing date for pre-entries: April 1st

*A tough 10 mile race in beautiful countryside, bordering moorland and Bowland Forest. Begins with a 2 mile downhill section, followed by approximately 6 miles uphill. Distance markers every mile and water stations every 5K. Parking situated a short distance from registration. Tea and cakes usually provided in village hall afterwards.*

### **Sunday April 22<sup>nd</sup> Paddy's Pole Fell Race**

4.5m/1100' (AS)

This event hosts separate ladies' and men's races

Start 12 noon (ladies)/1.00pm (men) from Fell Foot, nr Chipping, Lancs (GR602442)

Entry form on [www.prestonharriers.com](http://www.prestonharriers.com)

£4 pre-entry by April 17<sup>th</sup>

*A route description and map of the course are available on Preston Harriers' website.*

# **The Don Morrison Memorial Edale Skyline**

## **English Championship and Grand Prix counter Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup> 2007, 10.30 am**

The limit for this race has been reached and entries are now closed. Substitution is permitted within the club, so if you have an entry but know you will be unable to compete, please let other Toddies know as they may have had their entry turned down, or know of someone else who has. Anyone wishing to substitute must complete an entry form and send it, together with a cheque for £2, to the race organiser by March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Maps of the course, with the route marked on plus additional route info and hints, are available from [racemaps@gmail.com](mailto:racemaps@gmail.com), price £2.50.

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### **Checkpoints**

Start and Finish: field at bottom of Grindsbrook (GR 123863)

*Follow tapes up the zig-zags to the top of the hill*

1. Ringing Roger (GR 126872 – no dibber at this checkpoint)
2. Top of Jagger's Clough (GR 144881 – no dibber at this checkpoint)

*At the fingerpost near Crookstone Barn, turn left following the taped section to the gate at the bottom of the field on the main path. DO NOT follow the old route through the gate at Crookstone Barn, there's a new fence been put up!*

3. Win Hill Summit (GR 186851 – dibber point 1)
4. Hope (Edale Road) (GR 172838 – dibber point 2) – drinks
5. Lose Hill Summit (GR 153853 – dibber point 3)
6. Mam Tor (GR 127835 – dibber point 4) – drinks at Mam Nick

*Time limit and cut off at Mam Nick (GR 125833) is 2 ½ hours after the start – no exceptions.*

7. Lord's Seat on Path (GR 108833 – dibber point 5)
8. Brown Knoll Trig Point (GR 083851 – dibber point 6)

*Follow tape due west to stile and run along fence line*

9. Top of Jacob's Ladder (GR 081861 – dibber point 7)
10. Grindslow Knoll Top (GR 110868 – dibber point 8)
11. Ringing Roger (GR 126872 – dibber point 9)

*Follow the zigzags down the hill*

12. Finish (GR 123863 – dibber point 10)

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Further information on the race is available on the Dark Peak Fell Runners website.

## Forthcoming Local Fell Races

(By Colin 'never knowingly short of an opinion' Duffield)

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 11.30am

**Ilkley Moor Fell Race** AS 5 miles/ 1260ft

Wells Road, Ilkley.

*In the GP last year so you'll all know it's short but surprisingly tough. Also, best bring a hat, or you'll catch your death of cold. In the long term this could lead to being eaten by worms, apparently.*

Saturday 3rd March 12.00 noon

**The Noon Stone** AM 9 miles/ 2250ft

Top Brink, Lumbutts.

*A Harriers production, so if you haven't offered to help yet, Andrew Horsfall's the man to contact (01706 818623) (See elsewhere in Torrier for further details).*

Saturday 10th March 11.00 am

**Half Tour of Pendle** AM 9 miles / 2300ft

Barley Village, Nr Burnley.

*Some would say the better half, I couldn't possibly comment. Demanding and draining, but the consensus is that it's a cracker. Pre-entry only I believe, details and entry form at:*

*[http://www.clayton-le-moors-harriers.co.uk/uploads/Entry\\_Forms/htop-entryform2007.pdf](http://www.clayton-le-moors-harriers.co.uk/uploads/Entry_Forms/htop-entryform2007.pdf)*

Saturday 10th March 11.30 am

**Windmill Whizz** BM 7 miles / 800ft

Ogden Reservoir, Halifax.

*Trailly sort of race on good paths and bridleways. Suitable for all, but remember your windproof body cover. One can only hope for an appearance at the prize giving by Chigley legend, Windy Miller, also known as 'the hard man of the Trumpton Fells' (anyone who is too young to understand this reference ought to buy an explanatory DVD).*

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 08.00m

**Wutherng Hike/ Haworth Hobble**

BL 31 miles / 4400ft

Westfield Lodge, Penistone Hill, Haworth

*Remember, it's not masochism if you don't enjoy it.*

## ARCHIVES

Claire Duffield is in the process of compiling a club archive and would like any old race results, newspaper cuttings, photographs, or anything else you have which you think may be of interest. She is particularly interested in anything from before 2002. All these things can be photocopied and returned to you.

Contact Claire on 01422 846593 or speak to her at pack runs.

## Committee Meeting Minutes

8th January 2007

### Mini Mountain Marathon

Thanks to Dave Wilson for all his work organising this event. There were 50 competitors.

### Kit

There is now a large stock of new kit.

### New member

Mick Hennigan

### Hot Toddy

Thanks to Peter for running this race.

### UKA/FRA

It was noted any decision of the FRA regarding affiliation to UKA

is a matter for individual FRA members only, as clubs do not affiliate to the FRA. The FRA special committee will meet in March to discuss this matter.

The subs to England Athletics (who have taken over from NoEAA) will change this year. The club fee will decrease substantially to £50, but individual the affiliation fee will rise to £3 this year and to £5 in 2008. Tod Harriers members need to be advised that they only need to pay this fee if they intend to do road races, or take part in events organised by England Athletics.

### PBW Relay

Team captains are in place and teams are being organised.

### Environmental issues

Natural England wants to know the routes of all the fell races we organise. Phil is sending off details. There is a possibility of a club environment policy being written in the future.

### Meeting time

It was agreed to move the time of these meetings back to 7pm

### Grand Prix

Thanks to the sub-committee which has now selected the GP races for 2007. There was some discussion initiated by John Crummett on the types of races chosen, and the structure of the GP. It was agreed that some compromises always have to be made. Derek suggested that next year separate road and fell sub-committees could meet initially, and then join together to make the final calendar. This subject to be discussed again later in the year.

### The 'Do'

Dave O'Neil brought up the subject of the 2006 prize presentation. It was generally agreed that there was a place for the more light-hearted prizes, but that we should perhaps take the main prize-giving a little more seriously. In particular we should emphasise the achievements of each prize winner. Dave suggested a short list could be drawn up in advance for Clubman of the year, and Colin suggested this prize could be presented by last year's winner.

# PENNINE BRIDLEWAY RELAY 2007

## Congratulations

to all our runners on an excellent turn –out and fantastic result for result for our club

## Men's 4th Ladies 2nd

Many thanks to team captains Mark Goldie, Kath Brierley, Simon Galloway, James Riley & Peter Ehrhardt for all the numerous phone calls and hard work that went into organising their teams



Pos.	TEAM Number	Cat	LEG 1		LEG 2			LEG 3			LEG 4			LEG 5		TOTAL
			Runners	Time Posn	Runners	Time Posn	AggPos Gain	Runners	Time Posn	AggPos Gain	Runners	Time Posn	AggPos Gain	Runners	Time Posn	
1	Horwich	O	Pete Haworth	00:55:56	Colin Rigby	01:18:54	1	Darren Kay	00:59:17	1	Paul Massey	0:34:48	1	Brendan Bolland	00:59:20	04:48:15
	36		Paul Green	1	Russell Maddams	1	0	James Logue	1	0	Alistair Murray	1	0	Chris Hays	1	0
4	Todmorden A	O	Paul Brannigan	01:03:04	Andrew Wrench	01:22:28	5	Mark Goldie	01:04:50	4	Dave Collins	0:40:11	4	Jon Wright	01:03:06	05:13:39
	22		Andy McFie	10	Shaun Goddman	3	5	Alex Whitem	5	1	Nick Wignore	9	0	Chris Smale	5	0
27	Todmorden Vets	V	Keith Parkinson	01:10:10	Derek Danahoe	01:46:09	32	Lee McCluskey	01:21:58	33	Andrew Bibby	0:45:06	31	Simon Anderton	01:19:13	06:22:36
	24		Dean Bamford	26	Colin Duffield	39	-6	Geoff Read	34	-1	Richard Blakely	21	2	Simon Galloway	27	4
32	Todmorden Ladies	L	Sharon Goddman	01:15:40	Chris Preston	01:46:36	43	Alice Heath	01:21:56	40	Kath Brierley	0:46:36	35	Mel Blackhurst	01:20:03	06:30:51
	25		Rachel Skinner	37	Kay Leigh	40	-6	Lisa Parsons	33	3	Sarah Glyde	29	5	All Richards	29	3
49	Todmorden B	O	Peter Bowles	01:10:30	James Riley	01:51:35	41	Neil Hodgkinson	01:20:59	37	Ashley Wright	1:10:00	45	Jim Duffy	01:34:50	07:07:53
	23		Gregg Elwell	27	Rhys Watkins	49	-14	Roger Haworth	31	4	Wayne Morrison	65	-8	Phil Hodgson	55	-4
53	Todmorden Mixed	Mix	Heather Simpson	01:26:08	Lynn Griffiths	01:58:12	59	John Lee	01:27:44	55	Rachael Lookley	0:51:33	52	Moyra Parfitt	01:34:46	07:18:23
	26		Dave O'Neill	55	Jennifer Porter	57	-4	Dave Wilson	45	4	Slava Barlow	41	3	Peter Ehrhardt	54	-1

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear all,

Well I thoroughly enjoyed my first relay in Tod colours, despite a jibe from one of my erstwhile colleagues at Rochdale. He shouted "What' yer doin' in that vest?!" and when I claimed I had just joined Tod "to slow the team down" he fired back "Well you seem to be doing a good job." Very sharp, very dry, and a touch hurtful, especially as Lee and I were doing our damnest at the time, covering the vicinity of the Shepherd's Rest in a liberal splattering of sweat and mucus. Of course I could have drawn his attention to our respective A teams...ah well, too little, too late, I was crushed.

Thanks, though, to Simon, for organising the vet's team and all else concerned. It was a good day...that is until at the end of the leg, when Mr Parkinson mentioned that the next B team runners had mislaid the start- even though it was quite big and would be very uncomfortable in your pocket, like one of those enormous wooden key rings youth hostels give you to stop you forgetting to give them back. If we saw them we were to tell them to hurry up. I tried to slink off in a very unteam-like fashion, knowing what could be coming next, and that 9.5 miles had been enough, ta very much, thanks for asking.



Roger Haworth & Geoff Read on Leg 4

I must hone my slinking skills, because a very enthusiastic Toddie whose name I was unfortunately too tired to retain found me out and gave it the full Douglas Bader, puppies in baskets, Winston Churchill, Henry the Fifth, pwease pwetty pwease, Captain Oates, our teammates are out there waiting, probably dying in the freezing winter conditions pining and waiting and waiting and pining, desperately wondering as the light died from their eyes "Why, why...why did nobody come...they said they'd come...." cue Vangelis theme from Chariots of...oh shit. I am doing another leg. How did that happen? Did I mention that he was enthusiastic?

So much so that we included a scenic loop in the wrong direction towards Chelburn before hitting the actual route. Who was I to put him right? It is not as if I live in...oh yes...Littleborough. Still, brownie points all round, which are the only kind I'll be winning for a while I fear. "No change there then" I here our Rochdale friend cackle from the back unanswered, as I stand frozen like an ageing southern comic on a northern club stage. "If you say I overdramatise things one more time I'll kill myself!" Cue coughs and the rustle of empty crisp packets drifting unwatched to the floor.

Not only did I do another leg, but I DID ANOTHER LEG, as I discovered on waking (if you can call it that,) the next morning. In this case my left, the calf, torn again. Walking is painful so I have a sneaking suspicion that 20 miles of tussock and track on Saturday are not a wonderfully good idea, unless someone fancies giving me a piggyback. Pwease? Pwetty pwease? Go on, fall on your sword - now that would be enthusiastic.

Still, there might be an Edale entry going for some lucky Toddie. Go on punk- are you feeling lucky? Alex, I'll keep you posted. Geddit? Alex, posted? Oh suit yourselves.

Geoff (Read)

Commiserations to Wayne and Ashley who had been given the wrong changeover time—oops.



Dear Editor,

By now you may be aware of the appalling manner in which I, Rhys Watkins, let down the Todmorden Harriers. I refer to leg 2 on the Pennine Bridleway Relay Race. I dropped 14 places, and left our B team in the perilous position of being overtaken by the (admittedly fantastic) ladies team.

What went wrong ?, I hear you demand.

The day before, I volunteered to check out part of the Joss Naylor Lakeland Challenge with Nutty Phil Hodgson and Nutty Dave Makin (and John Preston – but he doesn't count as he's sensible, like me), of the 'Let's Do Something Incredibly Harder Than The Bob Graham' Club.

26 Miles later, 8200 feet later, and at a pace that would have caused Paula Radcliffe to have a crap, I was knackered. Legs completely shot to pieces. Although, and to my delight and comfort, I did muster enough energy for 2 pints in the pub afterwards. I was even able to pick up the soap I dropped when in the shower (no smutty jokes please, I'm being serious).

I eventually got home, scoffed loads of food and crawled to bed. Set the alarm clock for 6-30, and started to count the number of those sexy sheep I'd seen that day. I slept blissfully unaware of the impending doom ahead.

On the relay, I knew that I was in trouble when James started running back down the hill to give me some encouragement. With all those teams passing, I did feel like a lad out of fat camp. To my shame, and no doubt 5 points, I even walked up some of the hills – but thankfully and unwittingly I forgot the club vest so no one noticed, probably.

The club should know that it's not easy being a Nutter. And yes, maybe I should stop talking to fellow Nutters, but then I could miss out on doing Windermere on a lilo dressed in green.

I tilt my cap in shame,

*Rhys Watkins*

NB1 My gratitude to James Riley for picking me, and suffice to say he played no part in the downfall of our leg. He remains a honourable chap, and quite frankly a lot faster than me.

NB2 John Crummet never ceases to amaze me - what a top effort doing the Joss Naylor within the 12 hours.

NB3 If you've got a lilo, a pair of walshes, a bike, and want to know about the Krypton-Man Challenge, ask Phil. But beware, the challenge is likely to change depending on how many beers Phil has had.

NB4 For all those BGers out there, please keep the weekend of 23<sup>rd</sup> June free.



## Recent Press Reports

If you have a race exploit that you'd like reported in the local press talk to Colin Duffield 01422 846593 (email [claire.colin@virgin.net](mailto:claire.colin@virgin.net)).

Go on, blow your own trumpet! You know you've always secretly wanted to.

**BTW, No, I don't do the headlines.**

Press reports usually appear in the **Todmorden News**, so if you're foolish enough to buy a HB Times and then find yourself reading an inferior race report, you've only got yourself to blame.

### Stanbury Splash / White Holme Circular (Press Date 01/02/07)

#### *Goldie Makes Early Mark on Club Championship*

Todmorden Harriers 2007 fell championship got off to a wet start last weekend when 28 Harriers made the short trip to Penistone Hill, Oxenhope for the 'Stanbury Splash' race. The race, run over a fast 7 miles with 1500 feet of ascent always attracts big fields and this year was no exception, with 230 runners lining up on the starting line, before embarking on a route which toured the rough tracks and moorland paths around Haworth moor, incorporating three river crossings on the way. This year cold, squally rain emphasised the somewhat aquatic feel of the event and ensured that the runners were well and truly drenched before reaching the finish line.

The race was won by former British Fell Champion, Ian Holmes, who has dominated races in the area to such an extent that he has frequently been called 'The King of Haworth Moor'. On this occasion he coasted to the finish in a time of 44.29, a full half a minute ahead of his nearest challenger, Ricky Graham, of Horwich.

Amongst the Harriers best placed was Mark Goldie who finished in 15<sup>th</sup> place, some six minutes behind Holmes. Next Todmorden man home was Paul Brannigan, who crossed the line in 22<sup>nd</sup> place with a time of 53.17.

The loudest cheers of the day came from the Todmorden ladies, who put eleven competitors into the field and were rewarded with an emphatic team victory after packing the ladies' higher placings with Ali Richards confirming her return to form by finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>. Recent signing and Oxenhope local, Chris Preston followed her home in 5<sup>th</sup> place just one place ahead of the rapidly improving Sharon Godsmen.

Whilst the massed Harriers were competing at Stanbury, two of their number chose to compete in a new race to the fell running calendar, the White Holme Circular Race. Ran from Summit this race took the competitors on the reservoir paths around Warland and Blackstone Edge. As at Stanbury, the blustery weather made for a wild experience for the athletes as they battled over the exposed moorland.

One competitor not fazed by the conditions was Todmorden's own Andy Wrench who was peerless in his domination of the race, winning in a time of 1.18.01 which was over three minutes head of next man home, Brendan Bolland of Horwich. The other competing Todmorden runner, Chris Smale, also scored a top ten finish, coming in in 8<sup>th</sup> position in a time of 1.27.18.

The next event to occupy the Harriers is the Pennine Bridleway Relay on the 4<sup>th</sup> February. This is a tough 47 miles relay event organised by Rossendale Harriers. Todmorden are fielding five teams, with 10 runners in each team. The elite mens' team will be hoping to repeat their success of last year when only two minutes and three places separated them from winners Bowland Fell Runners.

### Pennine Bridleway Relay (Press Date 08/02/07)

#### *Wine Flows as Teams Rise to Challenge*

Todmorden Harriers had reason to be pleased with their efforts last Sunday after a successful day in a major local off road relay race. The Pennine Bridleway Relay is run around a 47 mile loop mainly on paths and tracks traversing the hillsides and valleys around Rossendale, Burnley, and the Calder Valley. The route is split into five legs, with teams fielding two runners on each leg.

The event, organised by Rossendale Harriers, now in its fourth year, has become a steadily more popular event on each running. The 2007 event could boast 68 teams competing from the length and breadth of the North of England and representing the cream of fell running clubs. Hot pre race favourites were Horwich RMI, who along with Cumbrian raiders, Borrowdale Fell Runners looked the strongest on paper. Other fancied teams included last year's winners Bowland Fell Runners and local clubs Calder Valley and Todmorden Harriers who were both determined to uphold the honour of Upper Calderdale and give the outsiders a run for their money.

In the ladies section, previous winners Clayton le Moors looked the team to beat, along with Calder Valley if all went to the form book, although host club Rossendale Harriers had a strong female squad and were regarded by many as 'dark horses'.

Apart from the Senior Men's and Ladies' Teams, Todmorden also fielded a Veterans', Men's B, and a Mixed Team, making them one of the best represented clubs in the competition.

The competition began as dawn broke over Waterfoot. The sounding of a hooter heralded the release of the first leg runners as they set out from Fearn's School for the 8.5 mile first leg. The bitter cold and frosty ground did nothing to subdue spirits and Horwich's men showed their intentions from the off, gaining a significant early lead. By the time the runners had started to reach the first changeover at Kebs, the men from Bolton were three minutes to the good of their nearest challengers, with Clayton and Borrowdale the closest of these pursuing teams. Meanwhile the ladies' race was developing into a dogfight with the lead changing hands several times, Clayton ladies narrowly leading at the handover, followed by Rossendale. Todmorden handed over in third after a strong first leg by Rachel Skinner and Sharon Godsmen.

Leg Two, at 12.5 miles, is the longest leg of the race and where many teams chose to play their strongest hands. The Todmorden teams were no exception in this and their men's A Team pairing of Shaun Godsmen and Andrew Wrench gained a massive five places as they pulled their team into 4<sup>th</sup> place on the slog over Widdop Moor, before dropping through Colden and handing over at Callis Bridge. Elsewhere, interesting battle

was developing between Todmorden's other teams, the Veterans having slightly the better of things at this stage, with the Ladies and B Team snapping at their heels. Meanwhile, another notable performance on this leg came from Jo Waites and Jo Buckley, running for Calder Valley Ladies and gaining a full 18 places to bring the Mytholmroyd club back into contention for the ladies' prize.

Leg Three saw the runners going up through Callis Woods and eventually over to Warland via London Road and Salter Rake. All the Todmorden pairings seemed to enjoy themselves on this leg, making time and places as they relished the opportunity to compete on home ground. Particularly at home were Todmorden's Alice Heath and Lisa Parsons who ran the 2nd fastest ladies' time and gained valuable places for their team before handing over the baton at Calderbrook.

At the Leg Four changeover, Todmorden's senior pairing of Alex Whitem and Team Captain Mark Goldie took over just three places behind leaders Horwich, with big gaps appearing between teams. The Tod ladies were now in 3rd place, some five minutes behind the leading female team. Again Todmorden's teams ran well as they traversed the moor to Whitworth and the fastest section of the route, although the B Team suffered from a logistical mishap at this stage that scuppered their chances in the entertaining battle with their lady club mates.

At the beginning of the final leg, which starts at Lobden Golf Club and travels back to the start in Waterfoot, Horwich were unassailable and barring disaster were sure to take the title. Despite the best efforts of the chasing teams, including Todmorden and Calder Valley, this proved to be the case and their last men, Brendan Bolland and Chris Heys, crossed the line in a time of 4 hours and forty eight minutes. Todmorden's senior men followed in 4<sup>th</sup> place, with Jon Wright and Chris Smale running a solid final leg.

First back to Waterfoot in the ladies' race were Clayton, although only after a tremendous battle with Todmorden's women, whose second place in the ladies' rankings and 32<sup>nd</sup> overall, is a tremendous achievement and is easily the best result ever for a female Harriers' team.

Todmorden Veterans came home in 27<sup>th</sup> place overall, and 8<sup>th</sup> veterans team, with the B Team recovering somewhat from their earlier problems to finish 49<sup>th</sup>. The Mixed Team gained 53<sup>rd</sup> place after a fast final leg from Captain Peter Ehrhardt, partnered by former English Veteran Fell Running Champion, Moyra Parfitt.

Calder Valley Senior Men, missing some of their big guns finished in 12<sup>th</sup> place, whilst their Ladies came in 6<sup>th</sup> female team and 46<sup>th</sup> overall.

After the race Todmorden's Senior Team's Captains both declared themselves well pleased with the result. Ladies Captain Kath Brierley said, 'Remarkably all the Tod Ladies broke our club records for each leg. Before the race I promised a bottle of wine to anybody who did this, so that's ten bottles of wine I owe. Although I'm so pleased with the result I'm not bothered!'

### **Liversedge Half Marathon (Press Date 15/02/07)**

#### ***The Sun Shines on the Evergreen Derek***

The Todmorden Harriers 2007 Road Championship got off to a sun drenched start last Sunday at the Liversedge Half Marathon. The notoriously tough race is generally acknowledged as a true Yorkshire classic of its' kind, and boasts on route views of Kirklees Hall and the historic Hartshhead Church as it tours the furthest reaches of Kirklees district. From a running perspective the race is dominated by repeated arduous climbs, culminating in the notorious 'Hill from Hell' after nine miles where many a runner has been found lacking.

Amongst the 400 finishes this year, it was race winner, Rickie Wilson of Scarborough AC who dealt best with the course, romping around the route in a time of 1.13.56, over a minute clear of second place Richard Pattinson of Pudsey and Bramley AC. In the ladies race Keighley's Amy Green came home first in a fine time of 1.27.32.

The travelling Tod athletes were brought home by Andrew Bibby, whose time of 1.39.44 saw him narrowly outside the top hundred. He was followed home by Mel Blackhurst who finished in 1.40.17, giving her a prize as 2<sup>nd</sup> lady veteran 40.

Also noteworthy for the Harriers was another remarkable performance by the evergreen 74 year old Derek Clutterbuck, who took the prize for first male veteran 65. Derek, who lives in Whitworth, was making one of his occasional forays onto the roads after many years' success in the fell running world.

The Harriers' next Championship race will see them brushing off their trail running shoes for the Radcliffe 12 mile Trail Race on Sunday 18th February.

### **Radcliffe Trail race (Press date (Press Date 22/02/07)**

#### ***Dave hits the Long Trail to Victory***

Winning prizes is becoming a habit for Todmorden Harrier Dave Collins, who added the Radcliffe Trail Race to his recent spate of veteran 50 victories.

Collins was one of 13 Harriers who 'hit the trail' in Radcliffe last weekend when they competed in the 12 mile Race, which tours North Manchester's post industrial hinterland and takes in an old railway which has been converted to a nature walk, Bury Old Canal, and footpaths around the muddy banks of the River Irwell. Despite the slightly urban feel of the route, Todmorden's higher placings came from names more associated with the world of fell running.

In addition to Collins' success, Alex Whitem ran well to finish in 7<sup>th</sup> place in a time of 1.13.55, just two and a half minutes behind race winner, Ken Chapman.

The ladies race was won by Mytholmroyd's Sue Beconsall, who runs in the colours of Bingley Harriers. Amongst the Tod ladies, Sarah Glyde was pick of the crop, finishing in 89<sup>th</sup> place overall and 12<sup>th</sup> lady, she was followed home by second lady Harrier, Claire Duffield.

After the Radcliffe race, the organiser thanked Todmorden Harriers for their continuing support of events organised by Radcliffe AC and commented that he hoped the support would be reciprocated at the upcoming Harriers promotion, the 'Noon Stone Fell Race' to be held on Saturday March 3rd.

This race starts at the Top Brink at 12.00 and is a classic, tough, fell test for which full FRA kit and the ability to navigate are essential. Further details of the Noon Stone can be found on Todmorden Harriers website at <http://www.todharriers.co.uk>

## A Winter Behaving Oddly

'Old men will dream dreams, young men will see visions. People who run around the moors at night will be lucky to see anything at all'

Joel, Chapter 2, Verse 28 (*Almost*)

### Scene One

**21.30, September 20th**

**The Hollins- It begins!**

It's time I was on my way home, maybe then I can work out what has just happened.

It all started when I was standing at the bar trying to keep my head down. I noticed Batman working the room like an old pro, identifying quarry like a crafty hyena in amongst elderly gnus. He had already signed up Rohyp, Stalwart, and Bear. Now he was after me with promises of secret clubs and shiny badges. In-between man sized gulps of cloudy Bitter, he was also bragging about his success with the ladies of the club. Apparently, unlike in the masons girls are very much allowed, encouraged even. Crispy and the Newbie had already been conscripted.

I know I'm weak, they used to say I was easily led at school, this means that I'm easy game. Before I could break away from the herd and make a run for it he targeted me and made his move. It only took a few seconds and against better judgement I signed up. Oaths have now been taken, there's no going back

So tonight the Tod Bats have been born, or maybe the Tod Batties, although for obvious reasons *never* the Batty Boys (although some of our less 'street' members may need this explaining to them).

Before I leave the pub I ask Batman for the low-down. What gear is recommended? Is there a website? A secret handshake? A best selling book about a code indicating that the new messiah will come from our ranks?

Apparently not.

It turns out that it's disappointingly straightforward. All I need is my usual fell stuff, plus a decent headtorch. Reflective bibs should still be worn, as rescue helicopters are equipped with searchlights.

Fair enough.

### Scene Two

**20.00, October 24th**

**Dicks Lane -Do you remember your first time?**

The moon has illuminated the clouds above Langfield Common and I almost don't need a headtorch as we leave the still expanse of Erringden Moor and go onto the derelict lane with its tumbledown walls.

Looking back over Erringden Moor, it has a weird, lunar feel about it, almost a one-dimensional quality. It also has a very wet quality. At this time of year it's made up of 96% water. Us carbon-based bipeds have a similar H2O content, and by extension a similar molecular structure. On several occasions I have been in mortal danger of morphing into the bogs we have just waded through, but now we're safely on Dick's Lane and decide to stop for a bit of a social. Ever wondered how Dicks Lane got its name? If you'd been here tonight you would never ask the question again. How silly we must look? Standing about with sodden feet and squelchy pants, making small talk about headtorch batteries whilst Batman tries to work out where to go next. Stalwart has brought his old cavers lamp which is bright enough to confuse air traffic. He is experimenting by signalling to a passing airliner, worryingly its landing lights flicker and it seems to drop its altitude. We all panic a bit, 'Easy Jet... flying from Manchester to Amsterdam, Prague, Benidorm, and Langfield Common'. Almost.

Meanwhile, Riley Coyote is doing his best Ray Mears impression, filling in my obvious knowledge gaps by pointing out what he claims is the North Star, '...find the formation that looks like a cappuccino machine, follow it to the constellation that looks like a profile of Jimmy Saville, and it's the bright one at the end of his cigar (*something like this*). Weren't you ever a scout?'

I tell him my days in the scouts consisted of playing football in the Central Methodist's car park and trying to buy cider from the off licence on Halifax Road. I confess that it remains a bitter pill that neither of these activities entitled me to a badge.

'Right' says Batman, after a lengthy discussion with Rochdalian, 'This way. Follow me!' he turns and falls over Rohyp, who has knelt down to tie his shoelace.

It's been that kind of night.

### Scene Three

**20.20, November 1st**

**Bridestones-Do we really need the masks?**

As if nature didn't hit us hard enough with the ugly stick, Batman decreed we wear Halloween masks tonight. Although I expect in Hebden Bridge it's not PC to call it Halloween, we probably have to call it Samhain, or Allentide, or something, and probably recognise every pagan's right to paint their genitalia whatever colour they like and dance about naked in a free-form fashion. Grants may even be available from the Arts Festival Committee.

Thankfully we were all fully clothed as we made our way up from Tod and across Whirlaw Common to the Bridestones. It's sub arctic, the first really cold night of the year and there are bits of frost hanging off the turks heads. There's no moon tonight and the sky's blacker than Granny's back molars, but I would have thought that this place with all its weird rock shapes and associations with new age jiggery pokery was a likely spot to stumble across the odd hapless Wicca. But tonight we've seen no sign of even the most half-hearted cavorting and summoning of pixies. Perhaps the coven saw us coming and scarpered.

We've stopped briefly for a communal photo, and a simple head count shows that masks are evidentially a boy thing. The girls, Chrispy and Judy (not Richard) just have to gurn as best they can and try to look demonic. The masked boys look as scary as buttered toast on a Sunday morning, but the girls make me want to contact a priest.

### Scene Four

**19.55, 8<sup>th</sup> November**

**Stoooodley Pike -Fools with fireworks.**

We have a unique and touching relationship with the local mountain biking lads who, I think, call themselves the 'Night time Off-road Bikers' (NOBs). Our perception of each other is best summed up as,

'They think we're odd, we think they're mental'

Not unreasonable in either respect. Think about it, we only run about in the dark which I will concede is probably strange behaviour but hardly certifiable. They career down serious gradients at 30mph with no idea if they'll get to the bottom in one piece. In the dark. Mad as drunken chipmunks, the lot of 'em.

Anyway it was close enough to Bonfire Night to arrange a meet with these NOBs up at Stoodley and mess about with light explosives and now I'm cowering in the Pike's solid stone doorway watching the halogen bike lights coming up slowly from London Road. All I can think about are those adverts that used to be on telly to educate kids on the dangers of messing about with fireworks. This is due to the fact that someone has put Batman and Bear in charge of the whiz-bangs. These two have such a spectacularly poor instinct for self-preservation I'm surprised their genes made it this far through the Darwinian process. At this moment they are experimenting with the concept of horizontal rockets into a high wind. OK for me as I have the comforting bunker of Stoodley Pike to shelter in, not so good for the more unwary of our number who were caught out on the moor as the strafing began. It's all gone a bit 'Baghdad' out there with people diving for cover as Standard's finest goes flying about like Exocets over the heather. Stalwart has just given us all a laugh by displaying a lightening burst of flat speed to evade a 'Flying Fountain' that was inches away from his jacksy and actually pursues him over the moor for a hilarious 100 metres. Luckily its' little propulsion system was burnt out before his (I should clarify that this incident was hilarious for us, not him).

Every time one of these things flares, the moors are illuminated and a hundred startled sheep are suddenly visible and look up from their nighttime meanderings with dim, puzzled frowns. They haven't seen anything like it in these parts since the Luftwaffe.

Thankfully, the NOBs won't arrive within the next five minutes and we'll be gone before they can put the big industrial fireworks that they've promised into the hands of Batman and Bear.

Richard (not Judy) has just pointed out that we're going to be an hour late for our beer appointment. Time to leave.

#### **Scene Four**

**20.05, December 20th**

##### **Somewhere above Fairfield -Santa's little helpers.**

Cards on the table, here's my problem with tonight. If you're going to play at dressing up, it needs properly managing. I feel tonight we've let ourselves down. We're all Father Christmas. If the farm kids of upper Callis and Horsehold have looked out of their bedroom windows as we passed tonight they are going to grow up believing Father Christmas to be six different people of various sexes, ages, and stages of physical deterioration and deformity.

I mentioned this potential pitfall to Batman last week, I would have preferred one Santa, assorted elves and maybe an odd reindeer (Rohyp has had a cold for weeks now and his nose could indeed guide a sleigh).

As we drop down black dark lanes the noise of our feet seem to echo around the stone walls and the noise multiplies in the cold air. Underneath this pitter-patter I can vaguely hear a brass band playing in amongst the fairy lights down in the valley. It's all very festive. I half expect to run into a gaggle of Edwardian carol singers and a flustered Mr Scrooge rushing to market to buy a fat goose.

#### **Scene Five**

**20.20, January 10th**

##### **Blackstone Edge Trig Point-Something evil this way comes!**

Trig Points have loomed large in my life for the last few months. Tonight is no exception. Daniel 'Robinson Crusoe' Defoe called Blackstone Edge 'The Andes of England'. I prefer to think of it as 'The Blackpool Tower of the South Pennines', principally because it's much more interesting because of what you can see from it, than what it is. Tonight, on a shivery, soggy, night, when damp hangs thick in the air like the smell of an ill judged fart in a two man tent, we're looking out over the whole of the North West of England, watching the twinkling lights as people work late in offices in Manchester or arrive home in Oldham and put the kettle on

We're gathered around the Trig point, having a communal breather because we've been disturbed by a sound, a vision, and a smell. In that order.

We have just climbed up the Roman Road, with all its connotations of doomed clanking chariots and abandoned legions at the furthest outpost of a crumbling empire. Beneath us, the uneven, rutted, stones made it necessary to concentrate on placement of our feet and not much else. Visibility was down to just a few yards and hidden moorland stretched out endlessly from the furthest extent of our lights.

Most of us stopped at once the first time we heard it.

The noise was from hell, or at least one of the better suburbs of hell where a demon who's done quite well for himself might buy a modest semi. Anyway, bowels were slackened and breaths were held. Then we heard it again. A scream like a banshee who's got a bit over excited at a hen night and will have a sore throat in the morning. The noise was close, somewhere just off the path. In the darkness. Somebody muttered something about foxes. Someone else mentioned owls. We all agreed that it was nothing to be scared of, us being rugged outdoor types. Although I did notice we ran a lot faster after that. That was, until the vision...came into view and stopped us in our tracks...again...

Shuffling over the brow of the hill, swinging a lamp and moaning.

The vision was behind, the vision was in front. Rocks and hard places. Frying pans and fires.

As it neared us we could see its features. Some looked away, so what a relief it was to realise that it was nothing to panic about, only Mr Lateagain. He'd set off on his own due to an achy leg and was reversing the route we were doing. When we warned him about the not-really-scary noise, he muttered something about peacocks and carried on his way.

We struck out on the rocky path to the Trig, soon noticing the sweet, sickly smell of a dead sheep, somewhere OUT THERE. Perhaps the scream monster had been busy.

Trust me that you always feel safe at a Trig point. There's something solid and dependable about them now we're here. But we've still got to find our way down through the dark tundra without any further monster related incidents. Not a happy prospect.

Perhaps we've pushed our luck enough for one year.

Perhaps I'll give the roads a go next week...

Colin Duffield

## **Tough Guy 2007**

Fancy something different...?

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, I was persuaded to enter the annual Tough Guy event, down near Wolverhampton. I knew a few people who'd done it before and they seemed to enjoy it – in fact, often coming back year after year. It's not cheap, about £50 if you enter early, but I saw a clip of it on Transworld Sport and it looked fun.

So what is Tough Guy? Well, it's like a glorified army assault course really. You start with about an 8 mile cross country run, including one or two minor "obstacles" – a few walls to jump over, a zigzag slalom course contouring a hillside (great for fell runners!) etc. Then the real fun begins at the "Killing Fields"...

January 28<sup>th</sup>, 11am. Me and nearly 5000 other "competitors" lined up for the start. There was a great atmosphere, many people in strange costumes. I'd arrived early and looked over a few of the bigger obstacles – probably a mistake!

"Still, if these guys can do it, why can't I?" I told myself. I was reassured by the number of people who'd obviously done it before.

The cannon and flares blasted off and the race began. At first there were a few bottlenecks but it soon became clearer. Some of our top runners would scythe through the field – even I was constantly overtaking for the first 3 or 4 miles. It's good to be a runner at Tough Guy – you don't want to be held up too much at the big obstacles later on. This year the weather was relatively warm for January.

So, after the 8 mile run (about an hour and ten for me), we reached the Killing Fields. A series of about 20 different obstacles. The first one was basically a large wooden A-frame but as I descended I forgot why it was called the "Tiger". Cue some involuntary swearing as I received an electric shock! You can avoid this if you have your wits about you. I didn't!

Next there's the "Ghurka Grand National". A series of swampy ditches and crawling under netting. Nothing too bad. But then it's the "Fiery Holes", the "Vietcong Tunnels", "Colditz Walls" etc. Look up [www.toughguy.co.uk](http://www.toughguy.co.uk) for more details. I took my time over the various wooden obstacles – but always kept moving. I'd been told that was the secret. The "Underwater Tunnels" and "Walking the Plank" were the worst ones for me – the water was so cold. Absolutely \*&%£"\$^% freezing to be honest!!

Towards the end, I got cramp in my right calf, but nothing too bad. I finished in 1:47. The winner did 1:12. The slowest were out for over 3 hours – they had my respect! As I made my way back to the car, having showered and drunk loads of hot tea, still shivering, I didn't envy them one bit!

It was a different sort of experience – not like anything else I've ever done before. Straight after I said "never again", but now, 2 weeks later, I'm quite tempted...  
Anyone else?

Simon G.

P.S. As well as photos on the official website, there are loads of video clips on things like YouTube.

## Best Estimate 14 Jan 07

My third year organising this and obviously time to hand the baton over to another willing Tod Harriers volunteer. Or, maybe, the map, the GPS, or whatever. For – was it 5.8 miles and 910 feet of ascent? Or, indeed, 6.9 miles and 1537 feet? Either way, there were maps aplenty. And, with just two exceptions, this New Year again found Tod Harriers to be in an optimistic mood.

One Harrier managed to get inside 5 minutes of her estimated time: to some of us it was a surprise that she personalised the route so as to get a good stretch of downhill tarmac, but in any case it paid off – a prize for the Best Estimate, and, no doubt, for Uncle Barry was taking notes, a good start for the 2007 toilet seat.

There were other excellent personalisations too. A trip to Cross Stone church: several visits to isolated farmsteads, and one contouring along from the Calderdale Way, thereby avoiding a bit of a drop and, presumably a bit of a climb too. This despite what one runner described as 'a striped tape every 5 metres' and 'an arrow or a RUN ROUTE sign every ¼ mile'. I am told that the FRA runs navigation courses, and is prepared to accept Tod Harriers on their courses.

There were some other misapprehensions. Hot tip for next year's organiser rolled up, explaining to all who could hear that he guaranteed one aspect of the 2007 route: wrong. I was fed up of having my markers removed, stolen, prettily rearranged. But I did manage to locate another property owner who removes striped tapes late on a Saturday night, and, when they are replaced, again on Sunday morning. Did not, happily, go to the extent of realigning them along an alternative route. The new Tod Harriers box came to me containing a big canister of white lining spray paint: pity that, after I'd carried it half way round the course, the can didn't work. Still tempted to go up with another can another day.

Two Harriers handicapped themselves by carrying big children with big child carriers right round the course – prizes went to them, of course, as well as to the most pregnant participant. And the unwanted Xmas presents were received with unalloyed delight – even (particularly?) the famous trumpeting dog. So – thanks for coming. You all went home well & truly windswept, though not rained on, and well and truly fed & watered thanks to Claire & Steve at the Kebs.

## Results

	Estimate	Actual	Difference
Jane Smith	85.20	83.33	1.47
Colin Duffield	72.05	78.50	6.45
Roger Haworth	53.30	63.58	10.28
Derek Donohue	55.21	67.15	11.54
Neil Hodgkinson + 1	119.59	132.24	12.25
Barry Chapman	72.05	87.33	15.28
John Newby	85.40	102.13	16.33
Kerry Edwards	52.30	69.04	16.34
Lisa Parsons	52.30	69.04	16.34
Derek Clutterbuck	68.00	85.26	17.26
David Wilson	62.48	81.17	18.25
Claire Duffield	91.30	70.04	20.26
Paula Haworth + 1	119.00	143.25	24.25
Jim Smith	90.00	116.25	26.25
David O'Neill	55.55	83.24	27.29
Helen Hodgkinson	110.32	139.17	28.45

My time? Oh – well, yes – marking the route on the Saturday – I set off at about 14.40 and got back at 19.00, cold & sodden & with a bit still to mark on the Sunday morning. So all those nice striped ties were for me to find my way in the dark.

Peter e(the former Best Estimate organiser).

## Forecast Rain – how we got the Hot Toddy run in time

Well – you certainly heard it here first. Entrants queried it at registration: what are these poly (?pollie) bags round the numbers for? – answer – it's going to rain at 12 o'clock. And, on the start line – keep to the left, watch for traffic, run fast & you'll miss the rain. And they did. Only the last five runners got wet. What a service – courtesy of Todmorden Harriers 2006, and a fine team of members, intent, once again, on a smooth running of our annual road race.

Not a lot of skill needed, in fact – just experience. Marking the Fun Run at 9 o'clock the previous evening coincided with a torrential downpour (and I got the same again a couple of weeks later with the Best Estimate). When I rechecked the Fun Run route on the Hot Toddy morning, it was pleasing that none of the pools of water came over my ankle.

So we had 44 on the Fun Run. I think that's great. And lots of credit goes to Eileen Miles – lots of Tod Harriers juniors were lined up, along with juniors from other clubs near and far. Important for our future, and the future of the sport. And some of them absolutely pelted round the course; times considerably faster than last year. Maybe mud is easier to run than ice.

Despite the good conditions, Hot Toddy times were not so fast. A very exciting finish – local runner against international competition, pipped at the post. Anyway, Halifax came second to Skipton men's team and were first women's team.

Interesting to see what a difference it made to have the Hot Toddy on a Saturday. My calculation indicates we will miss Saturdays now for a good many years to come. But some of us could indulge our fantasies of being point duty police officers in a fairly safe environment. (I was taught that as a Boy Scout).

I think it was right to stick with the White Hart. Certainly a good location, and the facility of a big room to ourselves. Hopefully next year we'll get the Hot Toddies right. So it remains to thank a large and willing band of volunteers, who grafted to make the event run quite smoothly, and to wish everybody a good year's running before we get to the next Hot Toddy – on Sunday 30 December 2007.

Peter Ehrhardt

### BIKE FOR SALE

**RIBBLE ROAD BIKE** 23" C to C,  
would suit 5' 10" plus rider  
Renolds 853 tubing, Look full  
carbon forks,  
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The **Wilkinson**

# ACKWORTH HALF MARATHON

**SUNDAY 25 MARCH 2007 at 10.30 am**

**At the Village Hall, Low Ackworth, Nr Pontefract**

Under UKA Rules. Certified distance 13 miles 192.5 yards. NoEAA Permit No. 07/7956

## Incorporating the Yorkshire Half Marathon Championships.

Eligibility: Yorkshire Championships - birth or at least 9 months consecutive residence prior to race day.  
 Championship deadline 10/3/07. Tick box below if eligible.

And **1.7 Miles Fun Run – Starts 10.35 am – Entry Fee £2.00 (£3.00 after 10/3/07)**

**ENTRIES** to Christine McCarthy, 111 Holywell Lane, Glasshoughton, Castleford, West Yorks, WF10 4QZ.

**CHEQUES AND POSTAL ORDERS PAYABLE TO ACKWORTH ROAD RUNNERS & AC**

**ENCLOSE 9 x 6 STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR RACE NUMBER AND DETAILS**

**CLOSING DATE: 10 MARCH 2007** for race entries and inclusion in race programme (free to all runners)

**ENTRY FEES FOR HALF MARATHON - £12.00 UKA ATTACHED CLUB RUNNERS**

**£14.00 UNATTACHED. LATE ENTRIES AND ENTRIES ON DAY £5 EXTRA**

Tee Shirt to all Half Marathon finishers.

Medal to all Fun Runners.

Note! The course is not suitable for wheelchair competitors unless they are experienced.

**PRIZES** for half marathon to a total value of **£6,400** including first 15 men, first 15 women and all veteran categories in 5 year age bands from M40 to M75 and F35 to F65.

**Cash prizes to first 3 men and first 3 women.**

**1<sup>st</sup> man and 1<sup>st</sup> woman £750 each plus £250 for new course records** (mens record 64-49, womens record 73-31).

**2<sup>nd</sup> man and 2<sup>nd</sup> woman £400 each.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> man and 3<sup>rd</sup> woman £200 each.**

**1<sup>st</sup> British Man & 1<sup>st</sup> British Woman £500 each.**

All other prizes in vouchers from Up & Running.

Note: One prize per person, except where team prizes are won. See over for full prize list & championship details.

**PLEASE TICK BOXES BELOW ON ENTRY FORM AS APPROPRIATE**

### WILKINSON ACKWORTH HALF MARATHON 2007/FUN RUN ENTRY FORM

Surname ..... Forenames .....

Address ..... Post Code .....

Telephone ..... Male/Female ..... D of B ..... Age on Race Day .....

Affiliated ☐ Unattached ☐ UKA Affiliated Club ☐

Best Half Marathon Time in Last 3 Years ..... Fee: ☐ £12.00 ☐ £14.00 ☐ £2.00

Declaration: I am over 17 years of age (Half Marathon only). I agree to abide by UKA rules and accept that neither the race organizers nor their sponsors will be held responsible for any loss, injury or illness resulting from this event.

Signed ..... Date .....

Race Category Entered:- Fun Run ☐ Half Marathon – Senior Male ☐ M40 ☐ M45 ☐ M50 ☐

M55 ☐ M60 ☐ M65 ☐ M70 ☐ M75 ☐ Senior Lady ☐ F35 ☐ F40 ☐ F45 ☐ F50 ☐

F55 ☐ F60 ☐ F65 ☐ Yorkshire Championships ☐

Tee Shirt Size:- XL ☐ L ☐ M ☐ S ☐ Competitors rights covered by Data Protection Act

# Stanbury Splash

The opening round of this year's fell championship got off to a wild and windy start. There was some tight competition from the word go between Mark Goldie and Paul Branigan with Dave Collins making his presence known as a contender for a position on the finishing podium at the end of the year - if not in the open competition, then certainly in the vets. Mark managed to pull away from Paul and took the honours for Tod in 15<sup>th</sup> place overall, whilst Dave Collins was 28<sup>th</sup> overall but was the first V50.

The severe weather of recent weeks had not turned the course into the bog-trot I was expecting but it was still a bit of a Splash. The pissistant rain we have been training in since the new year had been replaced by a howling gale, which left most people cowering in their vehicles until minutes before the start. However, it was the quarry on Penistone Hill that was taking the brunt of the bad weather. Once out of the quarry and on to the open moor, the wind did not seem too severe. With the amount of clothing I had put on (base layer, thermal jumper, cagoule, vest, powerstretch leggings, shorts, fur-lined jock-strap) I was starting to get a little warm after a while.

As usual there was a good turnout for the race, although numbers were down on previous years. Given the weather conditions, that was hardly supprising. Ian Holmes won the race for the umpteenth time, but was being challenged hard in the early stages of the race. He only started to pull away after the turn round at the far point of the race. The challenge among the Tod ladies was equally as close as that between the men. Alison richards was in the lead from the early stages of the race but was always being challenged by Christine Preston. Eventually speed/stamina/youth paid off and Alison drew clear to win as first Tod lady. For the record, Alison was third lady overall. The Ladies race was won by Helen Glover of K&C only a minute in front of Alison.

Whatever the conditions might be, Stanbury remains an excellent early season race. It may not be a classic but it is always well attended, and proved to be a good opening race for Tod Harriers.

Dave Wilson.

Jenny Greenwood  
Massage Therapist

is offering

Sports Massage for Runners

Including

Soft-tissue release, Stretches, & Trigger-Point Release

Pre-event, post-event, and maintenance treatments

£20 for half an hour

£32 for an hour.

If possible it is best to book one hour for your first appointment to allow time for assessment-plus-massage.

\*\*\*\* Runners Special Deals \*\*\*\*

Available until end of March 07

\* 25 for one hour initial assessment-plus-massage

100 for one hour PLUS 5 half-hour massages

Hebden Bridge on Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays  
Telephone 07815 917746

Todmorden on Wednesdays  
Telephone 01706 819464

On Reflection  
4 Commercial Street  
HX7 8AJ

Physio & Therapies  
61 Halifax Road  
OL14 5BB  
(opposite Lidl's supermarket)

# CALDERVALE COUNTRY 10M

Under Uk Athletic Rules

Permit No 07/7619

( OPEN TO ALL OVER 16 YEARS)

OR

## 4 MILE FAMLY FUN RUN

# Good Friday 6th April 2007

STARTING

FUN RUN 12 noon

10 MILE 1pm



MEMENTOES TO  
ALL  
FINISHERS  
IN BOTH RACES  
SPOT PRIZES FUN  
RUN

### Course

**10 MILE** One lap undulating with hills  
challenging course using country roads

### Fun Run

Quiet country roads one lap

### PRIZES

1-6 MEN

1ST VET Men

040,045,050,055,060,065,70+

1-6 LADIES

1ST VET

035,040,045,050,055,060,65,70+  
LADIES

**ONLY ONE PRIZE PER  
PERSON**

### ENTRY FEE

**10 MILE**

**Attached £6.00**

**Unattached £8.00**

**FUN RUN**

**ALL £2.50**

**ENTRIES ON THE DAY**

**£1.00 EXTRA ON ABOVE  
FEE,S**

**ENTRIES TO Dave Clarke 3 Cock Robin Lane Catterall Garstang PR3 1YL Tel (01995) 605973.**

**Cheques/Postal Orders made payable to ROAD RACES ( CALDERVALE )**

**PLEASE ENCLOSE S.A.E. 9"X6"for number and information Postal entries close 30th March 2007**

Name		Surname	
Post Code			
Tel No			

ENTRY FORM /de  
**Caldervale 10m & fun run  
2007**

Leave Blank

Club

male female

AGE

please delete

D.O.B.

10 mile

fun run

Please Tick

I declare that I am an Amateuras defined by Uk Athletic rules . I certify that I am fit to run and understand that the organisers will in no way be held responsible for any Injury or Illness or my property during the event.

signed.....

Date.....