

A superb winter's day attracted a field of 114 runners with just one casualty near the finish, who asked me to thank those who assisted him to the finish and afterwards.

Thanks also to Geoff for the use of college facilities, Barry and Jane, Neil and Paul.

Martin Richardson

1. R. Hope	P&B	20.20
2. A. Schofield	Borr	21.02
3. E. Nash	N'castleUni	21.16
4. M. Rigby	Amble	21.38
5. G. Wilkinson	Clay	21.45
6. D. Walker	Clay	21.58
7. D. Cummins	Shett	22.04
8. W. Smith	Kghly	22.30
9. T. Austin	DkPk	22.31
10. S. Bottomley	P&B	22.35

VETERANS O/40

1. (15) I. Ferguson	Bing	22.53
2. (19) W. Proctor	Kend	23.03
3. (21) A. Beaty	CFR	23.05

VETERANS O/50

1. (24) P. McWade	Clay	23.43
2. J. Hope	AchR	25.07
3. D. Fell	Wharfe	26.32

extremely muddy; so much so that you would have had to opt to duck and dive through the trees in the top section or progress through mud which was well over ankle deep and paddle across wet areas often 30 metres long in flood water! The usual few fallen trees made life interesting. What we didn't anticipate was a group of 100 walkers who had little awareness of runners and were only intent on socialising. I'll just recount one incident. One of the walkers had slipped over on the early descent down Belmangate Bank; the others crowded round, blocking the wide path as runners rounded a corner of an icy descent - they had to use walkers' backs to brake and jump over the inert obstacle. On being asked to keep a way open it just seemed beyond their comprehension!

In the race itself, it proved to be one of the most competitive for many years. Charles Stead led for the first two laps, hotly pursued by Paul Lowe and Kevin Sheppard. There was little between them until the third lap when Charles was overtaken by both his pursuers on the quarry section. Paul then stretched out a winning margin very gradually over the last half lap. I'm only too pleased that the walkers did not arrive until half way down the field on the last lap! This was Paul's fifth win in this event and I believe that if I consult my archives I will find that both the first two have won the junior race.

In the women's event it was a battling first lap between Alison Raw and Kendra White with little between them. Alison moved ahead on the second lap particularly after the quarry climb. Alison eventually came home a comfortable winner. Kendra has done extremely well recently in the ultra distance events beating many of the men who were ahead of her today.

In the Junior Races, Luke Kelton demonstrated his excellent ability on the hills winning by a comfortable margin. This confirms him as North East Hill Running Champion in the 'Novice' age group. This performance saw him finish ahead of the Intermediate Champion Paul McNally and Silver medalist Chris Maynard.

Silver medal in the novice category goes to Kristian Shaw with the Bronze being gained by Ben Henderson.

Hannah Bruce ran an excellent race to show her potential winning the Junior women's race by a clear margin from Gemma Bramley the North East Intermediate Hill Running Champion.

Congratulations to Gemma particularly for her overall performance this year which now includes North East medals in two throwing events and a Hill Running Championship. She may well be a future heptathlete! Well done Gemma.

David Parry

1. P. Lowe	Mand	39.00
2. K. Sheppard	Tipton	39.12
3. C. Stead	Saltw	40.00
4. M. Burn	ThirskS	40.32
5. A. Capel	KnaveS	40.43
6. F. Smith	Saltw	40.50
7. R. Burn	ThirskS	41.00
8. J. Dickenson	Tyne	41.31
9. I. Ellmore	Scarb	41.40
10. A. Bissell	KnaveS	42.05

VETERANS O/40

1. (6) F. Smith	Saltw	40.50
2. (7) R. Burn	ThirskS	41.00
3. (8) J. Dickenson	Tyne	41.31

VETERANS O/50

1. (24) J. Winder	Scarb	45.43
2. (38) C. White	H'poolBR	49.27
3. (40) G. Houghton	CaldV	50.07

VETERANS O/60

1. (45) R. Sherwood	NMarske	51.39
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LADIES

1. (33) A. Raw	Darling	47.52
2. (41) K. White	Quak	50.17

3. (66) M. Gibbs O/50	ThirskS	56.34
4. (70) S. Jemson	NMarske	59.05

JUNIORS

1. L. Kelton	Quak	14.56
2. C. Maynard	Quak	16.50
3. P. McNally	Quak	17.07

BRISCOE'S BREWERY AULD LANG SYNE FELL RACE

West Yorkshire

BM/6m/900ft 31.12.00

In only her second ever fell race, Leeds solicitor, Pauline Munro proved to have the talent to go far in the sport of fell running. She judged the race perfectly having kept English champion Sally Newman in her sights, until Sally stumbled in the snow letting Pauline have the advantage. Once in front this 32-year-old was never going to let the race be taken away, in her words "it was death or glory". Having a Scottish parent, but being English she has dual nationality, but would favour the latter if the opportunity arose.

It's the challenge of the outdoor life that Pauline loves, she swims, climbs, scrambles, runs and is a Scottish Munro bagger, and has only liked racing multi terrain races before this victory. Her mentor and training partner is Brian Goodison of Abbey runners, and it was he who persuaded her to challenge the Auld Lang Syne race. Certainly the very cold, snowy and ice covered course didn't help the cold she was harbouring, hence she was clad from head to foot in various items of gear.

Meanwhile in second Sally Newman set a new V35 record, eclipsing Sarah Rowell's 1998 time of 45-52. Another two new ladies records were set, by over 40, Jo Prowse and by over 50, Margaret Jagan



Wansfell - runners on the steep descent from the summit
(Photo Peter Hartley)

VETERANS O/60

1. R. Smith	Amble	31.07
2. H. Catlow	CFR	33.48
3. P. Knott	B&F	33.51

LADIES

1. L. Lacon	Holm	27.04
2. J. Rae	Amble	27.16
3. B. McWade	Clay	28.37
4. K. Beaty O/35	CFR	28.51

GUISBOROUGH WOODS HILL RACES (MANDALE REPRODUCTIONS WINTER SERIES)

Cleveland

BS/6m/1000ft 27.12.00

Believe it or not, the 'winter wonderland' setting of snow and ice was an improvement in running conditions. I heard a lot of remarks at the event about how the going was slow (true) but I must point out that in the previous week, the going was



Robert Jebb of Bingley trying hard at Auld Lang Syne
(Photo Dave Brett)

both took out Sylvia Watson's old records of 46-33 from 1995 and 57-10 from last year respectively. Of course, Ian Holmes won again for his eighth straight win, mind this does include a 'ghost' race victory, when in 1996 the race was postponed due to very inclement weather, but of course a race was run with 70 runners. With an impressive ten straight wins in the Stoop race, who would bet against Ian completing this at the Auld Lang Syne?

With numerous British and English championship titles, victories at virtually every domestic fell race on the calendar, surely this must reinforce the view that Ian is the greatest all-round fell runner of his generation. If fell running was conducive to television coverage, Ian would rank alongside the likes of Steve Redgrave, Colin Jackson and other athletes of that ilk. The only TV coverage seen is of that days race on the big screen in the Old Sun Hotel, viewed avidly by the assembled runners, and a few locals.

Last years 'babe in arms' starter, Louie Holmes was running around more like his illustrious father, Ian, and once again gave the signal to send the 280 well wrapped up athletes on to the snow covered moorland. It is the organisers intentions, to always have Louie be the official starter, to see him grow and mature and maybe one day even pin a number on himself to compete. Being a Winnie the Pooh fan he was awarded a Tigger hat and gloves set which will come in useful when he's watching his dad run on Haworth moor.

44 year old Steve Oldfield is quietly notching up his tally of wins this being his straight fifth win, and an impressive 6th overall. Quite how this Next customer service employee manages to maintain such a high standard of regular racing at this level is beyond belief.

A relatively new kid on the block improved the under 18's record from 42-17 to an outstanding 38-38, especially in the ankle deep snow, sheet ice and covered bogs, the name is Alex McVey, remember it, he's bound to go far. This seventeen year old is currently studying sports science at Bolton North 6th form college and at the moment wants to go into physiotherapy, but this might change, true to every teenagers dreams. A knee operation on an inflamed ligament put him out of running for a year, this happened after he'd become the under 17 British champion in the UK championships at Brockagh, Co. Wicklow, Northern Ireland. He's been astounded by his performances here and at the Stoop race where he finished 13th overall and first under 18. First over 50 Tony Hesketh clubmate to Alex, has taken the youngster under his wing, and

with the years of knowledge Tony has amassed, Alex shouldn't go wrong, what initiative.

As ever Briscoe's Brewery awarded all finishers with a bottle of their finest Happy New Year Beer, the Auld Lang Syne Ale, a strong and tasty bitter brewed especially for the last race of the year. A feature at registration is being enrolled into carrying the 25 crates of bottled beer to the finish location to aid runners and organisers alike.

Next year will see a new label on the rear of the bottle, TRUST US IT IS WELL WORTH WAITING FOR, and will certainly be worth your exertions over this six mile and 900 foot circuit of Haworth Moor.

M.T. Glass

1. I. Holmes	Bing	36.13
2. J. Taylor	Bing	36.24
3. G. Patten	Amble	36.24
4. A. Peace	Bing	36.32
5. A. Wrench	Tod	37.28
6. S. Oldfield	BfdA	37.37
7. A. Schofield	Borr	37.39
8. G. Wilkinson	Clay	37.46
9. R. Jebb	Bing	38.00
10. M. Bouldstridge	Birchf	38.03

VETERANS O/40

1. (6) S. Oldfield	BfdA	37.37
2. (16) I. Ferguson	Bing	39.34
3. (17) C. Shuttleworth	Prest	39.37

VETERANS O/50

1. (27) T. Hesketh	Horw	40.36
2. (39) K. Carr	Clay	41.52
3. (62) K. Taylor	Ross	43.34

VETERANS O/60

1. (159) R. Jaques	Clay	49.23
2. (192) M. Coles	Skyrac	52.17
3. (211) R. Mason	Totley	53.19

LADIES

1. (65) P. Munro	Abbey	43.41
2. (67) S. Newman O/35	Gloss	44.02
3. (84) T. Ambler O/35	Ilk	44.54
4. (98) W. Johncheck	SRR	45.30
5. (102) J. Prowse O/40	Kghly	45.51
6. (114) L. Lacon	Holm	46.26

JUNIORS U/18

1. (12) A. McVey	Horw	38.38
2. (70) J. Carter	Spen	44.09

NINE STANDARDS FELL RACE

Cumbria

BM/8m/1800ft 1.1.01

Thankfully, the gales of New Year's Eve subsided to leave a mild and cloudy New Year's Day. There were 43 entries in the race, which was won by 17-year old Christ Waters. At Nine Standards, he was in fifth place but made an excellent descent to win the race by five seconds from Brian Clough, who was first veteran over 40. Mike Walsh finished fourth and was first veteran over 50.

The ladies' race was won by Denise Tunstall, closely followed by Debbie Thompson, who was also first lady veteran over 40. The team prize went to Howgill Harriers.

Many thanks to race officials and marshals and all other helpers, Kirkby Stephen Mountain Rescue, Sports and Social Club and race sponsor, Tony Sports of Appleby.

John Tunstall

1. C. Waters	Skip	60.43
2. B. Clough	Amble	60.59
3. S. Webb	VallStr	61.17
4. M. Walsh	Kend	61.22
5. G. Moffat	Howgill	61.28

VETERANS O/40

1. (2) B. Clough	Amble	60.59
2. (5) G. Moffat	Howg	61.28
3. (6) S. Moffat	Howg	63.44

VETERANS O/50

1. M. Walsh	Kend	61.22
2. P. Dowker	Kend	75.00
3. G. James	B'pool/F	75.23

LADIES

1. D. Tunstall	Tees	77.55
2. D. Thomspen O/40	Kesw	78.06
3. S. Dyer O/40	VallStr	93.56

HILL FORTS & HEADACHES

FELL RACE

Northumberland

AS/3m/1020ft 1.1.01

Those who chose to ignore the weather forecast got their reward with sunshine and classic views at the hill top finish.

The drifted snow slowed the runners a fair bit, so times were a bit outside those of last year.

R. Hayes

1. J. Dickinson	Tyne	26.28
2. G. Davis	NFR	28.57
3. R. Phizacklea	Morpeth	29.16
4. W. Lawrence	NFR	30.05
5. G. McWilliams	NFR	32.23

VETERANS O/40

1. (1) J. Dickinson	Tyne	26.28
2. (2) G. Davis	NFR	28.57
3. (4) W. Lawrence	NFR	30.05

VETERANS O/50

1. (8) J. Tomlin	Morpeth	35.14
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LADIES

1. (13) S. Davis O/35	NFR	38.34
2. J. Phizacklea	Morpeth	44.16

GIANT'S TOOTH FELL RACE

West Yorkshire

CS/3m/400ft 1.1.01

On a beautiful New Year's Day at Ogdewater, with snow on the high ground and the reservoir bathed in bright sunshine, forty one runners set off to do battle with the Giant's Tooth Race.

After an initial burst from the lower car park along a bridleway, runners must jump a wooden gate/stile, hare downhill to a bridge over the reservoir feeder and climb a steep zigzag woodland trail to the Giant's Tooth, a large whitewashed standing stone on Ovenden Moor.

After a terrific woodland descent to a wooden bridge, the woodland trail - with plenty of ups and downs along the way - is followed, then over the reservoir embankment, before a quick jaunt along



Heavy congestion led by Adrian Netherwood at Auld Lang Syne (Photo Dave Brett)