

Andi wins the first of the Bunny Runs

FELL RUNNING

EVERYONE loves a bunny, whether they are young, old, a serious athlete or a fun runner, and the April Bunny Run races have a unique appeal, proved by the 251 runners racing around Penistone Hill in Haworth on Tuesday.

Race organiser Dave Woodhead said this was the third ever biggest field with the record being 272 at "BR3" in 2002.

Fresh from running for Great Britain in the World Cross Country Championships in Edinburgh two days earlier, 29-year-old Andi Jones, of Salford Athletics Club, won Tuesday's Bunny Run in the slowest ever time, 16 minutes and five seconds.

Woodhead said: "This was a testament to the waterlogged course and the fierce strong winds."

Course record holder and 25-time winner Ian Holmes of Keighley finished second and was the first placed veteran, only 23 seconds behind Jones (16.28). Holmes' course record is 15 minutes.

England junior international, Keighley & Craven AC's Rob Shaw, finished in third place with a time of 16.93.

Woodhead said Rob, 18, of Riddlesden, "loves the fells especially the climbing aspect and is realising he has real talent, just like his dad, David, who finished third veteran."

Bingley Harriers' Shannon Taylor, 28, second in the British Championships last year, won her second ever Bunny Run in 19.05, the first being in 2005. Leeds City AC's Emily Klee was second with a time of 19.51 and Mel Hyder was third in 19.56.

Other local finishers included Silsden's Graham Pearce who finished ninth in 17.31, Keighley & Craven's David Shaw was 22nd



BUNNY MEN: Bunny Run winner Andi Jones (right) is followed closely by Bingley Harriers' runner Tim Midgley, who finished fourth overall. Behind them in a Keighley & Craven jersey is Rob Shaw, who crossed the line in third. The race was held at Penistone Hill in Haworth.

in 18.55 and Keighley & Craven's Paul Crabtree finishing 33rd in 17.58.

Keighley & Craven's Rosie Hellawell was 12th lady to cross the line and was the third place U-14s girl. Her time was 22.10.

For a full list of Tuesday's results, visit woodentops.org.uk.

● The second in the five-race Bunny Run series will be held next Tuesday, starting at 7.15pm at Penistone Hill.