

Fell runner Jenny bags Yorkshire silver medal

Local youngsters were very much to the fore when Saturday's Hellifield Gala Fell Races incorporated the Yorkshire Junior Fell Running Championship.

Bubbly Coronation Street star Vicky Binns, who plays Molly Dobbs in the ITV soap, added sunshine to the event, signing autographs, chatting to everyone and starting some of the fell races.

Vicky, a keen runner herself with a 10k pb of 49 minutes, took a great interest in the fell running, and by the end of the afternoon was cheering on the finishers with the families and crowds at the finish line.

All the races attracted record fields and some new course records.

A total of 69 seniors, including seven under-18s, set off to tackle The Haw then Newton Moor Top and back, with Blackburn Harrier Peter Matthews having the strength to beat Skipton AC's very talented England junior international Billy Pinder by five seconds. Sixteen-year-old Billy's consolation was that he won the Yorkshire U-18 title and with it the Jack Maitland Trophy.

Another junior international, Wharfedale Harrier Jonathan Bradshaw, from Silsden, - the Ambleside Sports U-17 winner - finished third in the U-18s and collected the Yorkshire silver.

British U-23 FRA champion Lizzie Adams (Dark Peak) won the £30 ladies' prize money finishing tenth overall in a fast time of 27-23.

Skipton's county schools' champion Becky Lambson, 17, fresh from a 3000m pb of 10 min 11.55 secs at the English Schools' Track and Field Championships, won the U-18 ladies' championship and set a new U-18 record of 29.01.

Former record holder and last year's champion Jenny Dybeck, of Ilkley Harriers, took the silver, and just as importantly beat her dad Nick by an impressive one minute 30 seconds. Horsforth schoolboy Sam Convery contested the Yorkshire U-12 Championship.

Despite competing in only four fell races ever, Sam took the silver medal, five seconds behind the winner.

The course of 1.5 miles in length and a 300 feet climb posed few problems for Sam, who has now won Yorkshire Championship medals on all surfaces (fell, cross-country and track) in the two years since he took up running.



SILVER LINING: Ilkley athlete Jenny Dybeck, who won the silver medal in the Yorkshire Fell Racing U-18 Girls' Championship at Hellifield.

PICTURE: Dave Woodhead

Race winner was Matthew Crane (Dark Peak) in 55.19 and first lady was Karen Pickles (Pudsey Pacers) in 17th and 66.53.

Bransberg gets PB

JORDAN Bransberg, a member of Skyrac

head performance coach for Jordan's performances this summer and Jordan is tipped by UK Athletics to be a future middle-distance performer, hopefully podium place at major championships the next few years.

Jordan, who has been in athletics for months, enjoys his training and is looking forward to competing in this weekend National Championships at the International Stadium.

Later next month, Jordan is hopeful to compete in Southern France, against the fastest European U-15 boys international meeting. Jordan is looking forward to this experience and a well-earned rest during September, prior to the start of the indoor season.

Orienteering

MEMBERS of Airienteers - the orienteering club for Leeds and Bradford - are competing this week in the bi-annual Scottish Orienteering Festival, an event which has an international flavour with runners from Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, Australia, and New Zealand competing alongside home-grown talent.

This year, the event is centred on the north of Edinburgh, with the six orienteering races spread over the Tayside region.

Peter Haines, of Ilkley, had a great day one at Dalrulzion, winning the competitive M55 race in 47.51 and finishing this up with third place on day two at Dalrulzion.

Meanwhile, daughter Florence was outstanding at W16 level on day one and was up on day two. Clearly, both will be heading for overall victory on aggregated time over the two days.

Steve Watkins recovered from 32nd place on day one to finish the M40 race in 11th position on day two when Neil Convery took the ninth.

Meanwhile, recent recruit to Airienteers Mirjam Fassler from Switzerland, was 11th at W20 and third on day two. Veteran Tony Thornley was tenth on day one, improving to fourth on day two at M40.

Shirley Wood from Addingham was 21st on day one to take sixth place on day two whilst Hilary Allen, also from Addingham, was sixth on day one and fourth on day two at W60. Lucy Haines was tenth on day one and fifth on day two.