



Ovenden - Richard Baker finished 29th
Photo: Steve Bateson

AULD LANG SYNE W. Yorkshire BM/6m/1000ft 31.12.95

Ian Holmes once again lived up to his tag as pre-race favourite by successfully defending his title, clinching victory by 13 secs from Pudsey and Bramley's Paul Sheard.

Although much of the route was covered in ice with six inches of snow on the tops (drifting to a foot in places), Holmes was able to impose his authority on proceedings from the Quarry Start, on the 6 mile circuit of Oxenhope, Stoop Hill, Top of Stairs, Stairs Lane, Water Conduit before retracing outward first 1½ mile.

Sheard was the only runner able to go with the pace as the pair left British Championship silver medallist Colin Donnelly in their wake, along with the other 132 keen New Year's Eve athletes.

Holmes attempted twice to shake off his rival, "I raised the tempo nearing the summit of Oxenhope Stoop, but found it impossible to stride out because of the icy conditions, having fallen twice, I knew Sheard was due one."

Chevin Chase winner, Sheard was to oblige on the rough ground nearing the end of the water channel just beyond Stairs Hill, and this was just the spur Holmes needed to force home his advantage.

The Bingley Harrier found himself halfway towards his stated goal of clinching his 'New Year Party Piece' with victory in the following day's 'Bob Smith 5' the next objective. Did he succeed? Of course, even with a hangover he out-sprinted Lee Warburton, two races in 2 different years in 24 hrs not bad!!!

Johnnie Butler of Keighley Road Runners retained the vets' title with ease finishing an outstanding fifth overall behind Donnelly, in third, and Pudsey's Alan Whalley.

Because last year's route (in the inaugural staging of the race) had to be shortened owing to three foot snowdrifts, Holmes' time is therefore recognised as a new course record. As is English and British Champion Sarah Rowell's who once again underlined her pedigree on the fells by placing an astonishing 21st overall.

The battle for second place was won by Holmfirth's Lisa Lacon (in 62nd place) from Jean Shutter of Pudsey and Bramley as Rowell was out on her own once again engaged in her usual battle against the leading men!

Once again all runners went home clutching a bottle of chilled beer with twist off top, for easy guzzling, with the fifty odd prize winners carting away enough alcoholic beverage to host several New Year parties!

Gareth Webb/Seymour Hills

1. I. Holmes	Bingley	34.32
2. P. Sheard	P&B	34.45
3. C. Donnelly	Eryri	37.02

4. A. Whalley	P&B	37.07
5. J. Butler	Kly RR	37.14
6. M. Woods	UA	37.44
7. I. Ferguson	Bingley	37.51
8. J. Brook	Bingley	37.53
9. J. Brook	Bingley	37.53
10. C. Moses	Clem	38.37

VETERANS O/40

1. J. Butler	Kly RR	37.14
2. D. Beels	Rochdale	39.32
3. N. Pearce	Ilkley	39.58
4. K. Taylor	Rossendale	40.07
5. W. Mitchell	UA	43.24

Veterans O/50

1. K. Carr	Clem	40.11
2. P. Carr	Kly RR	40.26
3. J. Fielding	Rossendale	43.33

Under 18 Boys

1. A. Burnett	Leeds City	42.42
2. B. Green	Brad. Aire	45.38

Ladies

1. S. Rowell	P&B	40.05
2. L. Lacon	Holmfirth	45.34
3. J. Shutter	P&B	45.53

Lady Veterans

1. S. Watson	V. Striders	46.33
2. L. Ball	V. Striders	49.35
3. L. Bostock	Clem	50.01

Under 18 Girl

1. A. Green	Spen	54.18
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Teams

1. Bingley	16
2. P&B	20

CAPTAIN COOK RACE North Yorks BS/5.5m/750ft 1.1.96

This was the thirteenth running of the event and the course was very icy and hard underfoot. Marco Cara leading into the last mile was unlucky to fall and be overtaken by P Lowe. C. Potts won the ladies for the fourth year in succession.

1. P. Lowe	31.19
2. M. Cara	31.23
3. M. Brunskill	33.29
4. P. Wraggs	33.43
5. B. Roberts	33.56
6. P. Wilkin	34.15

Veterans

14. B. Mitchell V/40	35.18
38. D. Middleton V/50	37.53
43. C. Potts LV/50	42.39

"TOR OUTDOOR" OVENDEN FELL RACE West Yorkshire BM/9m/1000ft 6.1.96

What I like most about putting these races on is the way that many of the runners "muck in" on the day. Mark Horrocks turned up early and offered to put up the Car Park signs, Sarah Rowell offered me a hand to carry the boxes of prizes into the pub and one or two runners enquired whether I would like any more marshals before joining the queue for their numbers. To me, this is the true spirit of our sport.

No one believes me when I tell them what a picturesque setting we have at Ogen Water! The reservoir and surrounding woodland with the backdrop of high moorland are only ever completely enveloped in thick clag on race day! At least, the rain held off and by the comments made to me afterwards, the runners enjoyed the event.

Up front, Robin Lawrence broke the course record. Mark Horrocks gave him a hard time early on but eventually settled for second, also dipping inside the old mark. Sarah Rowell broke her own record by nearly four minutes and was sandwiched between the first veteran and super veteran.

Thanks to our sponsors, Tor Outdoor, who generously donated fleece jackets and overtrousers. Thanks also to Calderdale Leisure who maintain all the woodland and rights of way and Yorkshire Water who own all the land over which the race route passes.

Allan and Carol Greenwood

1. R. Lawrence	Bing	59.25R
2. M. Horrocks	CaldV	61.01
3. P. Brisce	P&B	62.24
4. C. Moses	Bing	62.42
5. C. Valentine	Kesw	63.04
6. D. Woodhead	Horw	63.17
7. J. Verity	St.B	63.39
8. P. Hughes V/40	Q'Bury	63.59
9. S. Rowell L	P&B	64.55
10. K. Carr V/50	Clay	66.00

Veterans O/40

1. P. Hughes	Q'Bury	63.59
2. R. Futtrell	Holm	67.41
3. J. Dore	Roch	68.34
4. W. Mitchell	Unatt	68.46

Veterans O/50

1. K. Carr	Clay	66.00
2. R. Jaques	Clay	69.09
3. M. Coles	Skyrac	74.44
4. G. Breeze	Skyrac	78.30

Ladies

1. S. Rowell	P&B	64.55R
2. P. Oldfield V/35	BfdAir	78.20
3. L. Bostock V/35	Clay	82.09
4. K. Barraclough	BfdAir	82.10
5. J. Town V/35	DenbyD	85.03
6. M. Dunn V/40	Bing	93.33



Auld Lang Syne. John Brook, counter in Bingley's winning team
Photo: David Brett