

## AULD LANG SYNE FELL RACE

West Yorkshire

BM/6m/1000ft 31.12.97

The annual Old Beer Handpump men's trophy is only engraved with one runner's name - "since the first year three years ago, I've always tried to run it. I've won it each time including twice last year when it was re-run due to very deep snow on the original date, and a 'ghost' Auld Lang Syne' was run!" said Ian Holmes.

This year, the first time snow wasn't underfoot, meant heavy conditions due to recent rainfall and mild weather, and reflected in the winning time of only 37.02 by Holmes as against his own record of 34.20.

The main competition was for second as English veteran over 40 silver medallist, Steve Oldfield, for the better of nephew, Gary, by nine seconds, although Gary had delivered the post around Bradford before putting on his running vest!

Carol Greenwood, the inaugural race winner in 1994 and 'ghost' 1997 was once again in commanding form and probably reached the Stoop checkpoint in the first twenty. "I had a really good climb today but lost about ten places at the top of the Stoop. There's a section where you can either go through a gap in the wall or stay on the same side. Everyone went through the wall but for some reason I didn't. I lost a lot of ground there but it wasn't too important. I still had an enjoyable run despite finding myself nearly waist deep in a puddle on the water section!"

One of the many talking points was the section along the water conduit; here, a seemingly five foot watery puddle just too wide to jump met runners. Hands up if you joined Holmes, Carol, the Oldfields, John Wright, etc. in being sucked down to thigh level when you thought it was only inches deep! Certainly, the finish area looked like the 251 athletes had competed in a Haworth Moor version of mud wrestling, clean pink skin was a rare commodity. Several hardy souls found the cricket hut water butts very useful in revealing the skin again, whilst clutching free hot coffee.

Two records were set on the day as English Intermediate International, Gareth Hird, sliced 25 seconds off Adam Burnett's 1995 mark of 42 4 2. Showing no ill affects, Gareth won the Silsden New Year's Day Resolution Run the day after. The other record was by Essex girl, Linda Bates, who despite descending to Harbour Lodge, a quarter mile detour, still managed to set a new female over 50 mark in 1 36 10.

As normal, every finisher received a momento, what else but a bottle of beer! The fifty odd prizewinners took away enough drink to celebrate the New Year in style.

*Bud Weiser*

|                 |         |       |
|-----------------|---------|-------|
| 1. I. Holmes    | Bing    | 37.02 |
| 2. S. Oldfield  | BfdA    | 38.53 |
| 3. G. Oldfield  | BfdA    | 39.02 |
| 4. A. Preedy    | Ross    | 39.21 |
| 5. J. Logue     | Horw    | 39.28 |
| 6. J. Emmott    | KghlyHR | 39.41 |
| 7. M. Horrocks  | Clay    | 39.54 |
| 8. S. Wilkes    | Camb    | 40.13 |
| 9. J. Wright    | Tod     | 40.18 |
| 10. B. Goodison | Abbey   | 40.20 |

### VETERANS O/40

|                 |         |       |
|-----------------|---------|-------|
| 1. S. Oldfield  | BfdA    | 38.53 |
| 2. J. Emmott    | KghlyHR | 39.41 |
| 3. B. Goodison  | Abbey   | 40.20 |
| 4. M. Pickering | Ilk     | 40.27 |
| 5. G. Gough     | Clay    | 41.06 |

### VETERANS O/50

|                |        |       |
|----------------|--------|-------|
| 1. K. Carr     | Clay   | 42.46 |
| 2. J. Chadwick | Wilms  | 45.56 |
| 3. D. Scott    | Clay   | 46.04 |
| 4. G. Breeze   | Skyrac | 46.14 |
| 5. P. Nolan    | Macc   | 46.56 |

### VETERANS O/60

|              |        |       |
|--------------|--------|-------|
| 1. R. Bray   | B'pool | 49.18 |
| 2. J. Barker | Clay   | 50.09 |
| 3. J. Emmett | BfdA   | 55.12 |

### LADIES

|                      |         |       |
|----------------------|---------|-------|
| 1. C. Greenwood      | Bing    | 43.51 |
| 2. K. Drake O/35     | Spn     | 47.46 |
| 3. L. Lacon          | Holm    | 47.58 |
| 4. J. Shoter O/35    | P&B     | 48.19 |
| 5. R. Dorrington     | Abbey   | 48.29 |
| 6. A. Green U/18     | Spn     | 50.28 |
| 7. H. Johnson        | Unatt   | 51.04 |
| 8. E. Hopkinson U/18 | KghlyHR | 51.09 |

### JUNIORS U/18

|            |         |       |
|------------|---------|-------|
| 1. G. Hird | KghlyHR | 42.17 |
|------------|---------|-------|



Neil Ashton enjoys a bit of bogtrotting - Auld Lang Syne. Photo: Peter Hartley

## NINE STANDARDS RACE

Cumbria

BM/8m/1500ft 1.1.98

A weather window appeared amidst the Christmas/New Year storms to allow reasonable conditions for the tenth running of this event. A group of four runners led the race over the fell section but at the finish just two battled for the honours. Gavin Bland, in his first running of the course, crossed the line just five seconds ahead of course record holder, Graham Schofield.

*Tony Richardson*

|                  |         |       |
|------------------|---------|-------|
| 1. G Bland       | Borr    | 57.36 |
| 2. G. Schofield  | Horw    | 57.41 |
| 3. M. Rigby      | Amble   | 58.44 |
| 4. S. Webb       | VallStr | 60.55 |
| 5. B. Evans      | Amble   | 61.08 |
| 6. M. Addison    | Unatt   | 62.01 |
| 7. C. Valentine  | Kesw    | 62.49 |
| 8. P. Brittleton | Howgill | 63.22 |
| 9. A. Taylor     | Clay    | 63.35 |
| 10. P. Kelly     | Darl    | 63.42 |

### VETERANS O/40

|                 |      |       |
|-----------------|------|-------|
| 1. G. Schofield | Horw | 57.41 |
| 2. P. Kelly     | Darl | 63.42 |
| 3. R. Unwin     | CFR  | 64.09 |
| 4. C. Lumb      | Kend | 65.35 |
| 5. T. Houston   | Bowl | 66.14 |

### VETERANS O/45

|              |        |       |
|--------------|--------|-------|
| 1. J. Humble | N'land | 69.27 |
|--------------|--------|-------|

### VETERANS O/50

|             |        |       |
|-------------|--------|-------|
| 1. G. James | B'pool | 75.29 |
|-------------|--------|-------|

### VETERANS O/55

|               |       |       |
|---------------|-------|-------|
| 1. D. Simpson | Prest | 71.46 |
|---------------|-------|-------|

### VETERANS O/60

|            |        |       |
|------------|--------|-------|
| 1. R. Bray | B'pool | 77.13 |
|------------|--------|-------|

### LADIES

|                  |         |       |
|------------------|---------|-------|
| 1. S. Brown      | Bowl    | 69.57 |
| 2. A. Raw        | Darl    | 70.37 |
| 3. J. Rae        | W'lands | 72.40 |
| 4. D. Tunstall   | Tees    | 74.47 |
| 5. W. Dodds O/45 | Clay    | 76.53 |