

THE 44TH YORKSHIRE FELL RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS: BUCKDEN PIKE FELL RACE 15 JUNE 2022

David Woodhead, Yorkshire Championship Race Co-Ordinator

At the June 2022 Buckden Pike British, English & Yorkshire Fell Championship race, history was made by the 'Flying Scotsman' Finlay Wild of Lochaber AC who broke Eryri Harriers and fellow Scot Colin Donnelly's 34 year old course record by 12 seconds. Much credit must go to Dan Haworth of Matlock AC who forced the pace in the spectacular race and just lost out on the last steep descent to Finlay who has won the Ben Nevis race ten times.

In the 44th Yorkshire men's championship race Ben Rothery & Nathan Edmondson had their own spectacular battle to capture the

Yorkshire Fells Championship trophy, with the last steep descent again being the deciding element, Ben stormed past Nathan to take the Yorkshire and Ilkley Harriers club honours and finish 5th overall. On the rugged steep descent Nathan was also over taken by Joe Baxter of P&B who collected the silver medal to add to his silver in 2018 and his bronze medals in 2017 and 2019, the gold still alludes Joe, may be next year. Nathan finished 11th overall and collected the Yorkshire bronze medal.

Ilkley Harriers won the Men's Team Championship gold medals with Ben, Nathan and Jack Wood who was in the 2019 winning team.



Lefthand column, top to bottom: senior men L-R bronze Nathan Edmondson (Ilkley Harriers), champion Ben Rothery (Ilkley Harriers), silver Joe Baxter (P&B); senior women L-R bronze Rose Mather (York Knavesmire Harriers), champion Sharon Taylor (Helm Hill Runners), silver Emma Hopkinson (Wharfedale). Middle column, top to bottom: Ben Rothery (Ilkley Harriers) 2022 Yorkshire Fell Champion; WU23 L-R silver Lex Whitaker (Harrogate Harriers), WU23 Champion Betty Bergstrand (Middlesborough Mandale AC) with Sarah Rowell Perpetual Trophy, bronze Alice Gamble (Sheffield Uni OFRC); Men's Yorkshire Champs Fell Race team champions & gold medallists Ilkley Harriers L-R Jack Wood, Ben Rothery & Nathan Edmondson. Righthand column, top to bottom: MU23 Yorkshire Champs Fell Race silver medallist Jack Walton (Keighley & Craven AC); Ben Rothery (Ilkley Harriers) 2022 Yorkshire Fell Champion; Women's Yorkshire Champs Fell Race team champions & gold medallists York Knavesmire Harriers L-R Becky Penty, Rose Mather & Nik Tarrega © Dave Woodhead, www.woodentops.org.uk

In the women's championship Sharon Taylor of Helm Hill Runners was victorious, astonishingly 18 years ago Sharon who then ran for Bingley Harriers won the Norman Berry perpetual trophy and title at the 3 Peaks race. Sharon has been a consistent medallist in these championships winning three silver, 2007, 2011 and 2015 plus two bronze medals in 2003 and 2017 and competing as a FU23 Sharon won silvers in 1998 and 1999. Emma Hopkinson of Wharfedale Harriers won the silver medal the same as last year, Emma does have a gold medal and championship title from the FU17's in 1996 along with a bronze from the FU17's in 1997. Rose Mather of York Knavesmire Harriers won the bronze medal and led York Knavesmire Harriers to their first ever team gold medal win with Becky Penty and Nik Tarrega, much to their delight and surprise.

In the MU23's Alex Mason of Dark Peak Fell Runners turned the tables on 2021 champion Jack Walton of Keighley & Craven AC to

take home the Alistair Brownlee trophy which has the honour of it being the biggest Yorkshire perpetual trophy in the form a paella pan which he won in the Madrid Triathlon. The bronze medal went to Evan Bowers of Sheffield University Orienteering and Fell Running Club.

Betty Bergstrand of Middlesborough Mandale AC won the gold medal and FU23 Sarah Rowell trophy, Alexandra Whitaker of Harrogate Harriers won silver and last years champion Alice Gamble of Sheffield University Orienteering and Fell Running Club took the bronze.

Many thanks to Precision Pest Management and The Wharfedale Clinic who have been stalwarts in their support and sponsorship of these, the longest ever county fell running championships.

Below: Emma Hopkinson (Wharfedale) on her way to silver, chased by Becky Penty of York Knavesmire Harriers © Dave Woodhead, www.woodentops.org.uk

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SENIOR WOMEN		
Champion	Sharon Taylor	Helm Hill Runners
Silver	Emma Hopkinson	Wharfedale Harriers
Bronze	Rose Mather	York Knavesmire Harriers
SENIOR WOMEN'S TEAM		
Champions	York Knavesmire Harriers	
Gold	Rose Mather, Becky Penty & Nik Tarrega	
SENIOR MEN		
Champion	Ben Rothery	Ilkley Harriers
Silver	Joe Baxter	Pudsey & Bramley AC
Bronze	Nathan Edmondson	Ilkley Harriers
SENIOR MEN'S TEAM		
Champions	Ilkley Harriers	
Gold	Ben Rothery, Nathan Edmondson & Jack Wood	

YORKSHIRE UNDER 23 FELL CHAMPIONSHIPS		
WOMEN'S U23		
Champion	Betty Bergstrand	Middlesborough Mandale AC
Silver	Alexandra Whitaker	Harrogate Harriers
Bronze	Alice Gamble	Sheffield University Orienteering & Fell Club
MEN'S U23		
Champion	Alex Mason	Dark Peak Fell Runners
Silver	Jack Walton	Keighley & Craven AC
Bronze	Evan Bowers	Sheffield University Orienteering & Fell Club

