

DARK DARK DARK DARK
PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK
NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

WINTER 91/92

DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK
PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK
NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK
PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK
NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK
PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK
NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

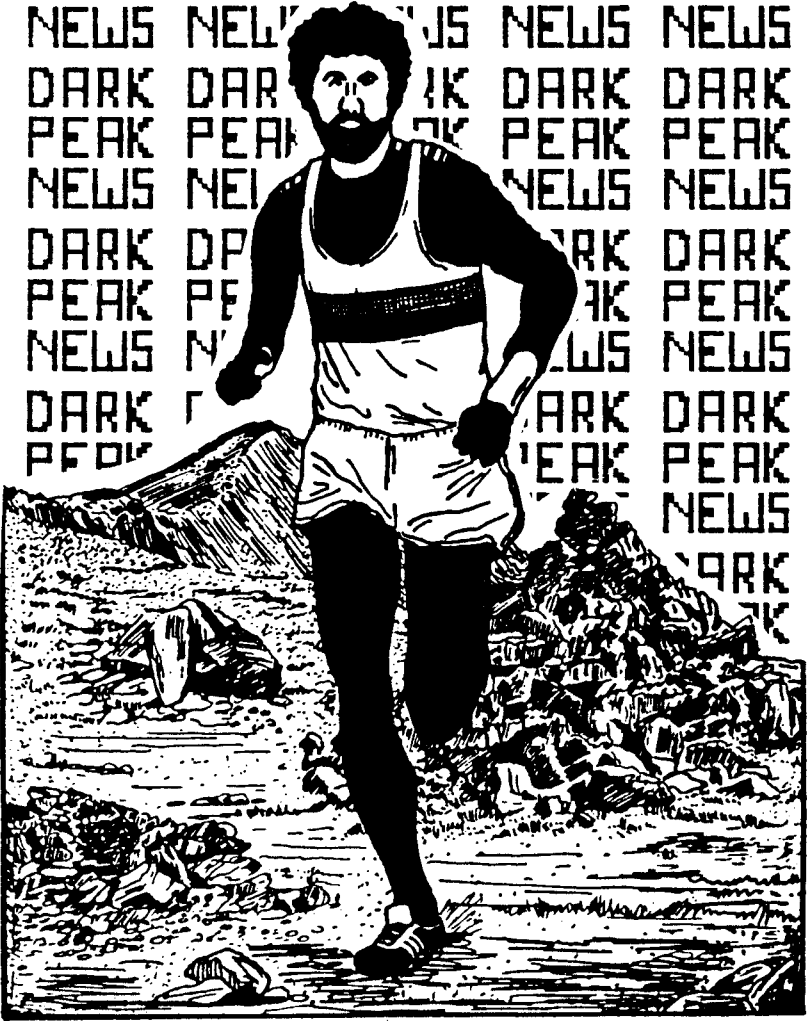
DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK
PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK
NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK
PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK
NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK
PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK
NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK
PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK
NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK DARK
PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK PEAK
NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS



NEWS AND COMING EVENTS

OBITUARIES

RAY AUCOTT

Mr Raymond Stanley Aucott of Eagle St., Buxton died at his home on Monday 14th October 1991 aged 51. He leaves his twin daughters Charlotte and Abigail and son David. Born in Birmingham he spent his childhood in Somerset before moving to the Buxton area where he lived for 40 years.

Appreciations

It was with great sadness that the followers of sport learnt of the death of Ray Aucott. Over the past three decades Ray had demonstrated an ability and determination that earned the respect of all his fellow competitors. His achievements were considerable and his Sportsmanship always exemplary.

A former top amateur racing cyclist, he was for many years Buxton Cycling Club Champion. He later joined Dark Peak Fell Runners, three times becoming the National Veteran Fell Running Champion. One of his most prestigious victories was in the Bens of Jura Fell Race.

At the age of 46 he delivered a stunning reminder of his prowess by winning the 1987 Otter High Peak 40 mile challenge, a victory of exceptional courage and ample evidence of the talent that gained him the National Titles.

Of such stuff are champions made.

Eric Mitchell

The Order of Service for the funeral of Ray Aucott cited him as "a very special person". To his family friends and many members of Dark Peak he was just that.

During his lifetime, together with being a devoted father to his children, he proved himself to be an accomplished racing cyclist, morris dancer, cook, builder, road runner, fell runner and in recent times an above average rock climber.

In his many sports, Ray always set himself high standards and would always push himself to the limit. But when involved with others, he would show himself to be an ideal companion, always giving friendly and helpful advice. This I personally experienced whilst partnering Ray in the Elite class of the Karrimor Mountain Marathon.

Ray's achievements on the fells are numerous, culminating in him being Dark Peak's first National Champion (Veteran Fell Running Champion 1980, 1982 and 1984). His forte was the long tough races and his outstanding successes included:

- Winning several tankards in the Three Peaks Races (trophies of which he was particularly proud),

- First winner of the Roaches race

- 3rd overall (1st Vet.) in the Wasdale Race. This was accomplished on a blisteringly hot day when the majority of the field retired due to dehydration - even Joss went home.

- Winning 2.5 gallons of whisky for 1st place, 1st Vet. and 1st team in the 1985 Bens of Jura Race. This took place just after Ray had run a sub 2-25 London Marathon. (Pity Ray didn't drink whisky!)

Ray loved life to the full. When he passed away peacefully in his sleep he left behind for many, many people fond memories of "a very special person".

Dave Sant

HOWARD BIGGINS

My first article for DP News in 1978 about the Ennerdale Horseshoe was inspired by Howard Biggins. Howard's graphic accounts of such fell running adventures helped me persist with the sport in those early days. It is sad that my second article should be Howard's obituary.

Howard Biggins was one of DPF's very first members with a season or two already behind him when I joined with Tony Trowbridge at the first AGM in 1976. Others present at Chris Worsell's were Eric Mitchell, Mike Hayes, Geoff Bell, Roger Baumeister, Graham Berry, Les Outwin, Bill Bentall and Jeff Pemberton. Howard, Chris, Jeff and Bill were all work colleagues in those days and, in some ways, DPF seemed to be just an extension of the firm. Indeed Howard described fell running as, 'not so much a sport, more a way of life'.

His enthusiasm seemed boundless. He had been a first class cross country runner and local champion as Jeff Harrison, a school mate of Howard's will tell you. Smoking and his high pressure business life had not helped Howard's athletic progress thereafter. Unfortunately the 15 years absence of training coupled with his winning drive from earlier days often caused him to blow up in races.

What was good for new members listening to Howard's sagas of success and epic disaster was the challenge they implanted in the minds of his audience. In the early boom years, brown DPF vests were to be seen in profusion at the start of all the classic events far and near. This was the result of not only the Worsell three-line whip, but also the Biggins challenge.

Howard's success to failure ratio increased considerably as time went by. Much of this was due to the wise counsel of John Abbot who took the irrepressible but erratic Howard in hand. They became good friends, trained together and were successful Karrimor

 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS AND HANDICAP 1991

A glorious day to be on the hills and an excellent course devised by Pete Dyke. It was one of the best courses I've done on Kinder and had significant route choices on every leg. Even by the following Wednesday, no-one seeming any nearer to deciding on the optimum route.

The views were tremendous on a very clear day, a stop on Fairbrook Naze to look out across Derwent should have been compulsory! For those still debating the alternatives here's a brief guide.

Edale to Crowden Tower (foot): Most (including Andy Harmer) took the Skyline start up the track then round Grindslow Knoll and along the edge. Some (including Tim Tett) realised that an equally quick alternative lay just off the photocopied map running round the bottom into Crowden Clough and direct up Crowden Tower.

Crowden Tower to Snake Path Pond: A near straight line was probably best here up the Crowden Grouchs and into Fairbrook towards Fairbrook Naze, the Edge and a straight descent to the pond. Almost on instinct I, like many others, got into the more westerly of the Crowden Grouchs and headed for the familiar ground of Kinder River and Kinder Gates then from there to Fairbrook Naze. A few others, having got to Kinder Gates kept straight on for the Nether Red Brook grouchs but encountered heavy going. There was also the round fairbrook Naze alternative but the best that can be said for this is that it permitted a recce of the climb back up on the next leg!

Snake Path Pond to Edale: Classic route choice and the optimum route probably depending on your personal strengths and weaknesses. Strong runners and confident navigators (e.g. Tim, Andy) headed straight back up towards Fairbrook and a direct line for Grindsbrook. For others the prospect of the immediate climb was rejected in favour of a much longer but fast alternative. Down to Snake Bridge and the traditional club championships first leg reversed over the 3 minute crossing and down Unnamed Clough. Despite the good conditions several were still caught out and seen heading along the edge path towards Crookstone.

For those who haven't got a calculator handy here's some leg times for comparison.

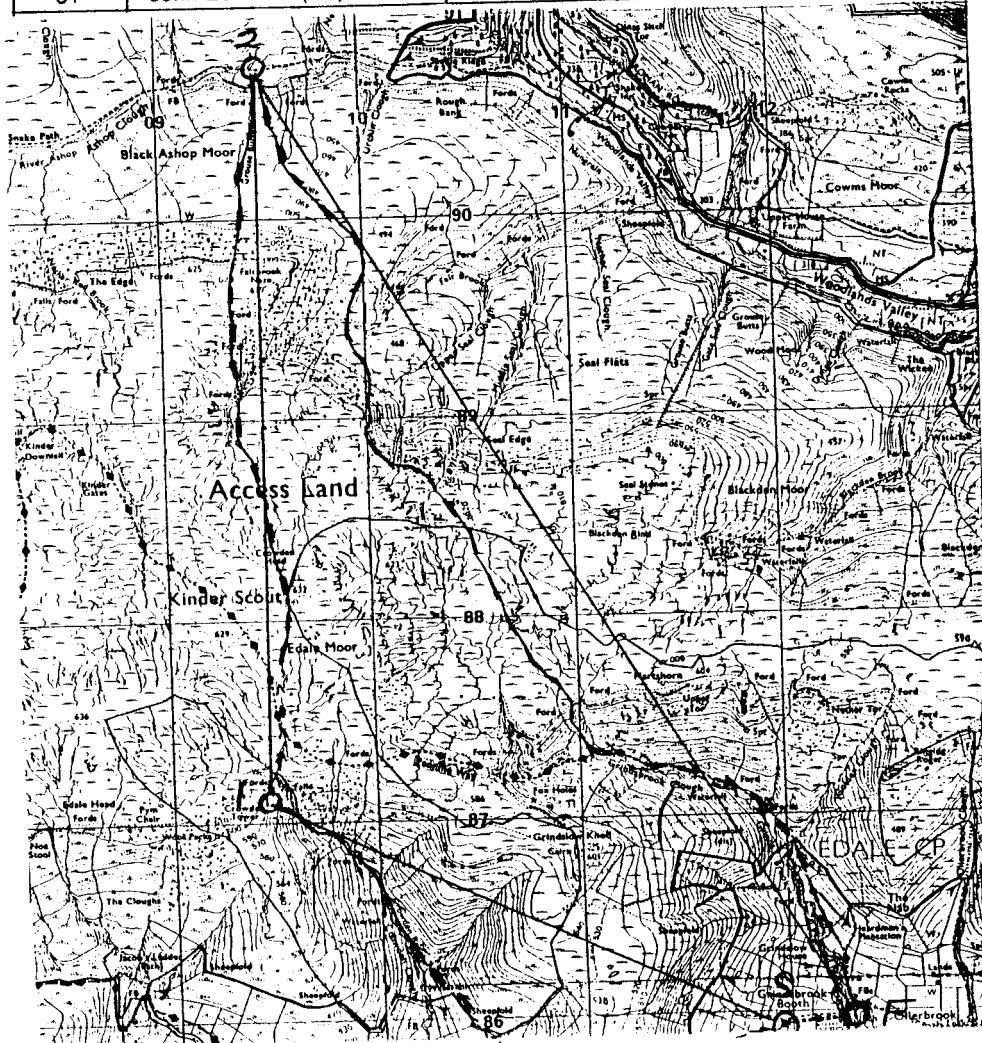
<u>Leg 1</u>		<u>Leg 2</u>		<u>Leg 3</u>	
Tim Tett	23:57	Tim Tett	19:58	Tim Tett	39:29
Andy Harmer	24:08	Bob Berzins	21:50	Bob Berzins	40:32
Keith Tonkin	25:19	Andy Harmer	22:08	Andy Harmer	42:52
Chris Stamp	25:25	Phil Crowson	24:12	Pete Jones	44:37
Bob Berzins	25:30	Graham Berry	24:36	Dave Holmes	45:17
Mike Meysner	25:34	Keith Tonkin	24:43	Keith Tonkin	45:53
Andy Forsyth	25:55	Andy Forsyth	25:15	Andy Forsyth	46:50
Phil Crowson	25:59	Ed Hutt	26:02	Mike Pedley	46:57
Graham Berry	26:08	Paul S'son	26:46	Paul S'son	47:05
Billy Wilson	26:10	Matt Simms	26:55	Graham Band	47:10

Dark Peak Fell Runners Club Championships 1991

Position	Name	Time at		Finish
		Checkpoint 1	Checkpoint 2	
1	Tim Tett	23-57	44-55	1-24-26
2	Bob Berzins	25-30	47-20	1-27-52
3	Andy Harmer (V)	24-08	46-16	1-29-08
4	Keith Tonkin	25-19	50-02	1-35-53
5	Graham Band (V)		49-42	1-36-52
6	Andy Forsyth	25-55	51-10	1-38-00
7	Peter Jones	Handicap winner 26-21	53-16	1-39-53
8	Paul Sanderson	26-14	53-00	1-40-05
9	Dave Holmes	26-32	55-01	1-40-18
10	Graham Berry (V)	26-08	50-44	1-40-47
11	Ed Hutt	28-56	54-58	1-41-45
12	Mike Pedley	28-17	56-47	1-43-44
13	Matt Simms	29-07	56-02	1-44-49
14	Chris Stamp (V)	25-25	55-27	1-44-54
15	Mike Meysner	25-34	55-13	1-45-05
16	Dave Lockwood (V)	28-05	56-21	1-46-03
17	Phil Crowson	25-59	50-11	1-46-15
18	Rob Sanby	28-07	57-20	1-46-56
19	Alan Yates (V)	27-15	57-02	1-47-50
19	George Jackson (SV)	30-24	58-12	1-47-50
21	Billy Wilson (SV)	26-10	56-36	1-48-08
22	Frank Lowe	28-00	55-09	1-48-29
23	Bob Marsden (V)	28-00	59-59	1-49-08
24	Howard Swindells (V)	27-59	56-18	1-49-36
25	John Armistead (V)	29-06	57-35	1-49-38
26	Jackie Smith (L)	28-55	1-01-20	1-52-00
27	Clive Wilson	28-59	58-00	1-54-14
28	Kevin Borman (V)	30-25	1-01-32	1-54-43
29	Wendy Lightfoot (L)	29-49	1-00-27	1-55-03
30	Chris Barber	28-44	58-29	1-55-15
31	Clive Last (V)	31-10	1-00-16	1-56-18
32	Jim Fulton	31-12	1-02-45	1-57-00
33	Tim Mackey	32-20	1-05-12	1-57-04
34	Jeff Harrison (SV)	31-00	1-07-50	1-57-29
35	Hugh Cotton (V)	28-42	1-04-33	1-58-38
36	Howard White (V)	31-48	1-03-49	1-58-41
37	Peter Kohn (SV)	33-39	1-04-00	1-59-23
38	Dave Moseley (V)	29-25	1-03-26	1-59-46
39	Graham Bell	32-47	1-04-50	2-01-27
40	John Myers	31-52	1-07-52	2-03-07
41	Will McLewin (SV)	32-34	1-05-57	2-03-29
42	Ges Myers	31-01	1-07-18	2-05-24
43	Bill Kenyon (SV)	34-34	1-05-14	2-06-18
44	Al Wright (SV)	32-30	1-13-17	2-06-42
45	Keith Wiley	30-10	1-05-52	2-07-20
46	Colin Henson (SV)	35-05	1-11-34	2-07-28
47	Roy Small	31-42	1-02-19	2-07-40

Time at

Position	Name	Checkpoint 1	Checkpoint 2	Finish
48	Jim Orrell (V)	32-30	1-07-58	2-08-51
49	Kay Whittle (L)	32-58	1-10-09	2-12-02
50	Paul Haines (V)	35-00	1-10-58	2-14-40
51	Frank Thomas (V)	28-35	1-01-40	2-15-17
52	Frank Galbraith (SV)	31-09	1-14-50	2-17-05
53	Eric Mitchell (SV)	36-59	1-20-12	2-19-59
54	Ted Woodhouse (V)	33-34	1-12-05	2-20-00
55	Roger Baumeister (V)	30-12	1-02-40	2-22-20
56	Richard Horsefield	29-45	1-05-24	2-23-30
57	Michael Kirk-Smith		1-18-26	2-24-06
58	Andy Malkin (V)	32-28	1-16-43	2-24-30
59	Harry Bell	34-38	1-20-17	2-32-19
60	Peter Griffiths	41-56	1-29-24	2-56-00
61	John Edwards (SV)	43-51	1-38-44	3-01-35



LETTERS

RACE PERMISSIONS AND THE NATIONAL TRUST



THE NATIONAL TRUST
for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty

HIGH PEAK ESTATE · ESTATE OFFICE · EDALE END
EDALE ROAD · HOPE · VIA SHEFFIELD S30 2RF

Telephone: Hope Valley (0433) 70368
Fax: Hope Valley (0433) 70397

Ref: HP/AOS/A

7 November 1991

Mr M Pedley
Dark Peak Fell Runners Club
49 Crimicar Drive
Sheffield
S10 4EF

Dear Mr Pedley

I have been given a copy of your editorial in the Dark Peak Fell Runners Magazine by John Thompson of the Peak National Park.

I feel it is regrettable that you chose to print such an article without first asking for the National Trust's position in this matter. I would therefore like to state our views, and I would hope you could find space in your magazine to print my letter, thus providing your members with the full and accurate story.

Firstly, the National Trust has definitely not banned fell races on the Derwent moors, and (as far ahead as anyone can predict) we have no intention of so doing. Free open access for the quiet enjoyment of these moors is part of the very reason for National Trust ownership.

However, as you and your members will be aware, the erosion of the paths along the Derwent Watershed has accelerated at an alarming rate in the past few years. There are several sections where the trampled width now exceeds 40 metres, and the loss of vegetation and subsequent erosion is on a scale equal to that of the appalling state of the Pennine Way.

This situation has led us to look closely at both visitor use of the area and possible techniques to provide sustainable surfaces.

FEATURES

MORE STORIES FROM FAR AWAY

My last piece had nothing to do with running and this has nothing to do with fell running. While I still wear my brown vest to race in, the races are almost exclusively on the roads. I say this with some trepidation fearing that my activities may lead to expulsion from the club. However, I promise to return to a proper environment in 1992 when I come back to England.

Brazil is the first country I have lived in where running is a socially acceptable pastime, indeed it is almost mandatory among the richer classes whose life ambition is the perfect body. The body beautiful, however, is not enhanced by fraying shorts and a holey tee shirt, so I get disapproving glances as I bump into bare chested, muscle bound yuppies and society women in designer jog suits that reveal every, and I mean every, curve of their bodies.

Training is a chore and there is very little variety. I have a course that goes up the hill, around the streets with mansions huddled on the roadsides, past the cemetery (where there is always the faint whiff of rotting flesh that doesn't come from the chicken corpses left as voodoo offerings at the crossroads), back past the military hospital, across the main road and over the hill to home. Sometimes I extend the run to take in a favela where the drains overflow into the streets and ragged children outstrip me up the hill. More pleasant but with less hills is a run along the river. Here it's about 2km wide and beautiful in the setting sun if the wind isn't wafting its stench towards you. Otherwise there's the park with the tramps shitting in the bushes and children wobbling on bicycles. Once, twice or three times round?

On occasions at weekends I run out to the fringes of the city where the tarmac ends and the 'marginales' eke out an existence collecting and sifting through the city's rubbish for food scraps. A long low ridge where there are still some natural patches of rain forest give a good run, though the shanties are spreading up here too. There is always the fear that someone will take a fancy to my running shoes and help themselves without asking, giving a bullet or knife in exchange.

It was up one of these hills that I took part in the only thing to approach a fell race. It was orienteering with an assault course, only the route was marked. We set off from a disused quarry at five minute intervals each competitor, there were 8 of us, carrying a rucsac weighing a minimum of 5kg (nothing useful, you understand, I carried potatoes). At each control there was an obstacle to be negotiated; the punch was hidden behind a waterfall or in the upper branches of a tree. It was a lovely event, jogging round the forest paths, keeping track of progress on a sketch map, scrambling about in bogs and getting thoroughly wet and muddy. A hare was sent round in front to mark the course with plastic strips but unfortunately he ran out of steam and we caught him at the penultimate control. We had to wait while he rested and then gave him a ten minute start before we completed the race. We all got back tired and happy and went for a beer. The others

 GOING THE DISTANCE

THE 'FIFTEEN TRIGS ROUND': UPDATE AND EPILOGUE

The 'Ten Years on the Bog' book contains details of the challenge, its conception and the 16 successful attempts between May 1985 and August 1986. An update in DPFN News, April 1989, speculated that No. 17 Andy Harmer's extraordinary 10h 4m riposte to Bob Berzins (no. 16) 10h 48m record had frightened off mere mortals, and that the '15 Trigs' round was falling into neglect. Rick Ansell's (no. 18) first Winter completion (also reported in the same edition of DP News might have been the epitaph...

The 1987-1988 hiatus (during which the 'Second Eleven' idea was given shape by Dave Lockwood and Bob Marsden) is now seen as a hiccup and in the last couple of years the remaining 12 certificates have been awarded to a cross section of hard-core Dark Peakers. With the 'First XV' already lined up (Mike Hayes, Roger Baumeister, Jeff Harrison, Alan Ireland, Ian Roberts, Pete Lewis, Alan Sanderson, Peter Kohn, Howard Swindells, Colin Henson, Ben Hodges, Will McLewin, Dave Moseley, Gerry and Neil Goldsmith plus the original Gang of Three, Bob Segrove, Pete Jones and Alan Yates), the 'Second XV' is thus constituted by;

16	Andy Harmer	
17	Bob Berzins	
18	Rick Ansell	
19 & 20	Martin and Ged Desforges Sportsman anti-clockwise,	14 May 1989 13h 35m
21 & 22	Dave Lockwood and Bob Marsden Sportsman anti-clockwise	15 July 1989 14h 23m
23 & 24	Ed Hutt and Murdo McKenzie Sportsman anti-clockwise	28 April 1990 14h 28m
25 & 26	Terry Sayles and Frank Galbraith Sportsman clockwise	7 May 1990 14h 41m
27 & 28	Rob Sanby and Alex Pryor Royal (Hayfield) anti-clockwise	17 June 1990 13h 22m
29	Kev Borman Sportsman anti-clockwise	9 September 1990 14h 18m
30	Pete Simpson Royal clockwise	29 March 1991 12h 56m

LANTERN PIKE : 17 SEPTEMBER 1991

1	A. Trigg (Gloss.)	30:46	180	J. Harvey	46:30
16	G. Berry [3rd V40]	34:32	185	P. Griffies	46:53
30	P. Crowson	35:59	202	B. Wardle	48:23
145	J. Fulton	43:26	208	P. Guerrier	49:44

> > > > > > > > > > > > > >

HAYFIELD CHAMPIONSHIP 1991

Congratulations to Phil Crowson in winning this very competitive 4 race series. After nearly 5 hours of racing less than one minute separated the top four.

1	P. Crowson	4:46:32
5	G. Berry	4:49:50
25	J. Fulton	5:49:53
33	J. Harvey	6:33:26
40	B. Wardle	7:21:10

> >

TOTLEY TERMINATOR : 18 SEPTEMBER 1991

You could call this a Dark Peak clean sweep as the winner, Mark Hayman, has since run for the club. When was the last time Dark Peak claimed the first 9 places? We don't often manage that even in our own 'closed' events!

To count in the Topley Tigers Series you had to run this final event so I embarked on my longest fell race for over 3 years. Caution prevailed at the start as I plodded along in the last dozen wondering how people managed to run so fast in such a long race. As the familiar ground of Rivelin and Redmires approached I moved through the latter part of the field and began to enjoy the run as well as seeing Billy Minto appear from behind me having taken in the Ringinglow alternative.

The route has many checkpoints, some manned and some with orienteering type controls, but there is still scope for interesting route choices. Jim Fulton and I took the direct line from Ocean View to Stanage Pole. It neither gained or lost us time but provided a peaceful interlude until some Barber clad people near Stanage Lodge suggested we would get shot if we continued across the moor to Stanage Edge (we ignored them but maybe ran a little bit faster to rejoin the main field!).

This race has a sting in the tail. After about 13 miles you find yourself near Grindleford with the end of the race being in Topley. People had warned me to save something for Padley Gorge, that wasn't too much of a problem, but they hadn't mentioned the run across the tussocks of Longshaw. That seemingly short stretch removed what energy I had left and the last three miles (all flat or downhill) was a real struggle. Terminator by name - and nature.

M.P.

