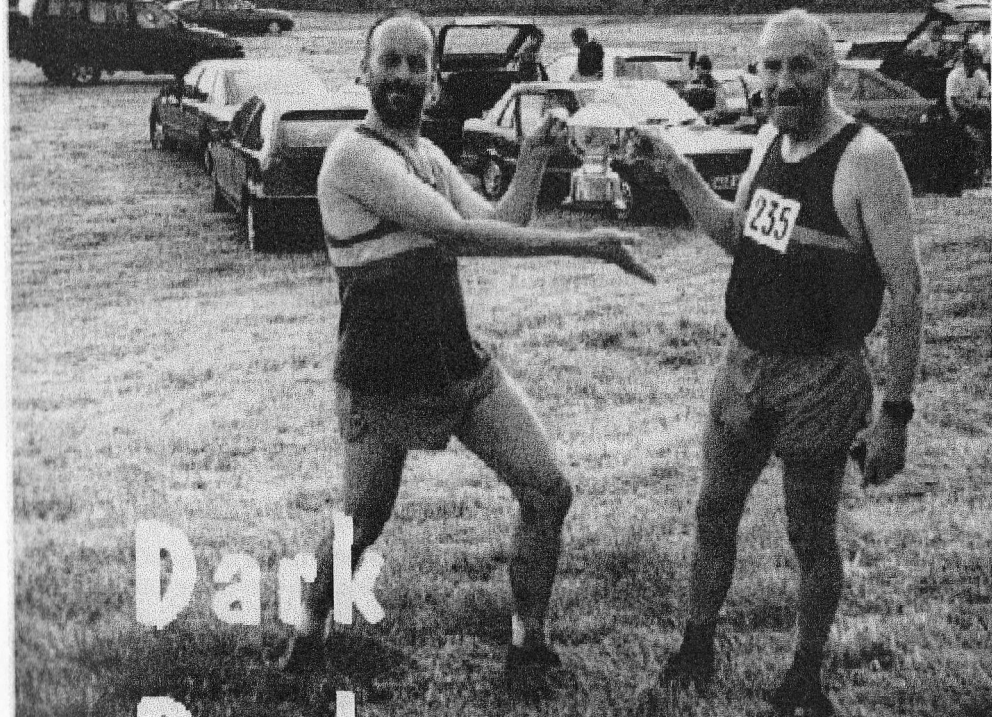


**Autumn
1999**

**Dark
Peak
News**



DARK PEAK NEWS

Autumn 99

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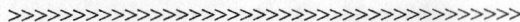
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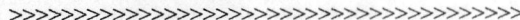
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News

Club Hut Condemned

Plans to renovate the club hut were stopped in their tracks when serious structural problems were discovered during a close inspection of the building. The findings suggested the hut could collapse at any time and left club officials with no option other than declare a return to the car park changing at the Sportsman on a Wednesday night. Roy Small and Hugh Cotton's appeal for funds has been put on hold whilst discussion are held into possibilities for a replacement.

The hut was moved following the closure of the nearby prisoner of war camp in 1945 and is possibly the last remaining building from the site. It is hoped an alternative can be found but with ownership and access unclear at present there need to be some careful discussions before we commit to significant spending.

Registration scheme chaos

A proposal to from North of England AAA to charge all club members £5/year to register for "official" races was strongly criticised in a consultative meeting of South Yorkshire clubs. Paul Sanderson and Dave Holmes attended the meeting and described the proposals as "ill thought through". Their sentiments were backed up by other clubs in the region. Some NOEAAA officials, who were reported to have taken an arrogant stance saying it would happen anyway, have gone away to consider their next move. Meanwhile DPFRR officials are now contacting other fell clubs to look for a united stance against the proposals. One possible outcome may be the return of fell running to it's traditional existence outside of the structure of other UK athletics events.

Gutsy BG rounds despite poor weather.

Andy Dickenson and Kev Saville did superbly well to complete the Bob Graham round in weather that defeated several other contenders. They were around 1.5 hours down at one stage but put in a tremendous effort to claw back the time. Once Andy teamed up with Rick Ansell at Wasdale they made excellent time. Meanwhile Kev amazed those who thought the Lowe Mountain Marathon a week earlier would have left him tired, by pushing hard to finish with just 3 minutes to spare. Well done!

However, the difficult conditions may have showed up the flaws in the now more relaxed policy of letting new club members and even non-members become contenders. The lack of experience of some of the other contenders may have contributed to the retirements and, more seriously, the need to call to the rescue team to locate one, only to find him in the Wasdale Head Hotel! Whilst the blame may not necessarily be on the contender, the attempt left some of the club members who gave up time to support rather unimpressed. Maybe next year will see a return to the unwritten rule of supporting before attempting the round. Still at least everyone had Andy and Kev's superb efforts to celebrate.

Jo Smith stunning return to form...

Jo Smith has surprised many this summer with a string of superb race performances. Having missed over 6 months with a stress fracture of the pelvis, Jo has now come back stronger and fitter. Amazingly, this is despite Jo being unable to train much. She maintains her general fitness in between races through a variety of non-running activities. Whatever she's doing it seems to be having some affect.

...and wins Broomhead Chase outright

Jo's summer included many top ten performances (she was holding 2nd in the "new" Baslow before finishing 5th) but it was Broomhead Chase which caught most headlines. It was one of those rare cases when a woman has an open race outright. Although her cause was helped slightly by the two early leaders going walkabout it was nevertheless a fine run which also took the existing women's record.

Classic Crowson at Crookstone!

At the Andy Harmer's Crookstone Crashout, Phil Crowson made what sounds like one of the all time classic navigational errors. The race continued with the longer Edale YH route still taking in Blackden trig and Crookstone knoll on the return to Rowlee Bridge. Phil headed North towards the trig but somehow on the plateau made a 180 degree error missing it and arriving back on Kinder S edge. Thinking it was the North edge (and presumably not recognising it was Snake below him rather than Edale), he turned right and ended up at Grindsbrook! ... 2.5 hrs later he turned up in the pub! When will he ever learn? The effort is not only a prime contender for the Pertex Award (for incompetence) but maybe we need to consider renaming it the "Crowson"?

DPFR elite pair star as LAMM traverses Black Mount

Dark Peak pair of Alan Ward and Simon Bourne finished second in the elite class at the Lowe Alpine MM. Just 1m 05s down after day one, they never quite made up the deficit on the leading pair of Alun and Ifor Powel, eventually losing out by 7 minutes. This year's event started in Glen Etive and finished at Inveroran. The few DPFR entrants found the LAMM maintaining its reputation as the toughest of the large mountain marathons. Maurice and Hilary Musson got their money's worth with a time of 18 hours for the two days. Darrel Bradbury and Kev Saville retired early on day 2 as Darrel's ankle played up. Meanwhile, Jan Cave and Mike Pedley finished 9th out of 115 teams (3rd mixed) on the C. Full report with pictures in the next issue.

Rob wins duathlon in dramatic finish

Rob Davison claimed what looked to be an unlikely victory in Howard Swindells' annual Dark Peak duathlon. The event moved to a Wednesday night but kept the same format of 1 mile run, 2 mile bike, 3 mile fell run including the infamous Hallam Bog, 2 mile bike and a final half mile run. Paul Sanderson had taken the lead with excellent navigation on the fell leg but was overhauled by Mike Pedley on the final half mile run. Mike looked to be pulling away to victory when severe cramp stopped him and Rob Davison overhauled both him and the tiring Paul Sanderson to snatch victory.

Coming Events

AUTUMN/WINTER 1999

Club runs every Wednesday from the Sportsman at 6:30pm or at an "away" venue (start times vary – CHECK BELOW). As the nights draw in there are the two usual winter options:

- a run with the roadies; 70-80 minute road run. Please wear light/reflective clothing so you can be seen. Many of the roads we run on are unlit and have no footpath.
- night fell running with the 'warts; about 2 hours of fell running but routes and times are very dependent upon the weather. The fells at night in winter can be severe! Please make sure you have plenty of warm and waterproof clothes... not to mention a good torch!

After last winter's successful roadies "away" run watch out for more this winter starting with a tour of Derwent/Howden from Fairholmes on 24th November.

Sep

Sat	25	11:00	Club race	Dungworth
Wed	29	18:30	Club run	Sportsman

Oct

Sun	3		Relay	Ian Hodgson Relay.
Sun	3		MM	Open Country MM (5 hour score)
				S.Gascoyne, 14 Lakelands Close, Macclesfield, SK10 1RF
Wed	6	18:30	Club run	Sportsman
Wed	13	18:30	Road run	Sportsman
		18:45	Warts run	Fisherman's car park, Snake. GR. 165 879
Sun	17	10:30	Relay	FRA Relay.
Wed	20	18:30	Club runs	Sportsman
Wed	27	18:30	Club runs	Sportsman
	30-31		MM	Karrimor MM

Nov

Wed	3	18:30	Road run	Sportsman
		18:45	Warts run	Grouse Inn
Wed	10	18:30	Club runs	Sportsman
Wed	17	18:30	Club runs	Sportsman
Sat	20	10:30	Club race	Club Championships, Edale. SEE BELOW
Sat	20	19:30	Club event	Club Dinner, Maynard Arms, Grindleford. SEE BELOW
Sun	21	10:30	Local race	Roaches, Meerbrook, Staffs 15ml/3700'
Wed	24	18:45	Club runs	Fairholmes (top) car park. BOTH warts & roadies. Don't forget your torch!

Dec

Wed	1	18:30	Club runs	Sportsman
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RELAYS

Ian Hodgson Relay : Sun 3rd October; Brotherswater

Teams of eight (4 pairs). Sadly there is always a very restricted entry for this high quality event. We will probably get 2 entries a men's and a mixed or women's team depending upon interest although a vets team may be an alternative.

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

FRA Relay : Sun 17th October, Alva, Clackmannanshire

A long journey to this year's event but the running promises to be of high quality (a bit like the Howgills). Teams of six with us guaranteed three entries (men, women, vets), plus a fourth may be possible.

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

Calderdale Way Relay : Sun 12th December

Can the men better the last two years' third places and the women repeat their 1997 victory? In terms of numbers this is the biggest, 100 teams of 12 over a 50 mile course. It's logistical headache at times but great fun and very sociable as 48 DPFR runners plus drivers, family and friends descend on Calderdale for a day out. Once again, our house is available as HQ from where operations will be co-ordinated and the usual mulled wine and mince pies available. We hope to have four teams again: men's, women's, men's vets and a men's B or mixed team.

Despite the large field, entries fill up quick so please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to run (£3.50 per person). Offers of transport (e.g. bringing a spare driver with you) are essential if our bid for a double victory is to go smoothly (it also makes it a lot less stressful for me!).

Mike Pedley

> >

Hallam Chase 2000

For anyone not familiar with this event, it was first held around 1860 and has been run each subsequent year except during the Wars. Entry is restricted to members of South Yorkshire clubs and competitors are handicapped with a chasing start i.e. slowest first fastest last with some runners who look like they have run in every event. It must be said that it is not an overly popular race, though it has been won by some Dark Peakers during its history. The present course is about 3 miles and is pretty horrible - but a good social event with plenty of freely offered spectator advise on route!

At the 1999 Hallam Chase, it was announced by the organisers (1 person really on behalf of Hallamshire Harriers) that as a one off for 2000 they are thinking about running the Hallam Chases over the original route. The original course is about 10 miles starting and finishing at Hallam Football Ground with about 90% of the route still accessible. 75% is off road and on tracks and with a guarantee of help with marshalling from other clubs Hallamshire are prepared to proceed with this for one year only. As it is more like "our sort of race" with opportunity for corner cutting / wall jumping / gate vaults etc. I would like to offer DPF's help. Is anyone else interested - shall we offer our Club's support in principle? Let me know please.

Jim Fulton

> >

MORE NEWS

FRA Relay 2000

Club Officials are considering making a bid to stage the 2000 FRA Relay. Dark Peak is now recognised as one of the top fell relay clubs in the country and what better than to go for victory in the first (or last depending on how you look at it) race of the Millennium on home soil. The preferred event centre would probably be Edale which offers challenging routes and good spectator opportunities. Watch out for further news.

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

Welsh Weekend?

"How would anyone fancy a weekend in North Wales... the Welsh 3,000ers... or something more leisurely. My family have got a cottage (called Cae-coch) just along and up a bit from Conway right up this mountain called Tal-y-fan which is handily at the beginning (or the end) of the 3000ers route. It faces the sun all day... and has a fair few beds and a virtually unlimited camping ground! It's shut up for winter because it's so remote, but any other time of year it is looking for occupants! Give us a ring if you would like to be in on a D.P. weekend some time.

Jo Smith
Tel. 0114 2667630

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

Alasdair David Pedley...

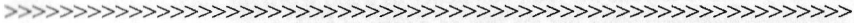
...was born into the world at 02:17 on Sunday 15th August weighing 7lb 11oz (3.5kg). He is fit and healthy and Helen is fine; looking forward to getting back to a bit of running but it will be a little while yet!

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

Changes of Address

Jenny James and Dave Peel, 20 Riverdale Road, Sheffield, S10 3FB
Tel. 0114 266 3169 - same as before.
Email: PeelLandSurveys@compuserve.com and jjames@stanleyworks.com

Dave Harrison, Maunsell House, Home Farm, Hopton, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, DE4 4DF Tel. 01629 540779



L e t t e r s

RACE DATE CLASH

Dear Mike,
I noted at the AGM I think that the club champs & dinner are scheduled for the Sat. 20th of November. This date clashes with the Roaches race - the day after - as it often does. I personally find his frustrating as I would like to do both - not on consecutive days though - and as there are few other local races of this length at this time of year, I wondered if there was a reason why the club champs often clash with the Roaches or if not if it could be avoided?

Hope you've recovered from Borrowdale .
Best wishes ,
Richard Hopkinson

Too late for this year but it's one of the many factors we'll bear in mind when setting the date. Often the key factor is the availability of the venue for the club dinner. P.S. I didn't run Borrowdale - must have been someone else with curly hair, a beard and a new baby (hello Rick!)



BOG READING TO CONTINUE?

Dear Mike,
Does the DPFR website signal the demise of the traditional club newsletter? The loss of the paper format would have serious implications - Alan (Sealy) is concerned that he will lack reading material to keep in the loo. For everyone else in our house this could only be a good thing. Wishing you every success with the website.

Yours hopefully,
Clare Gordon

Dear Clare,

I would like to think that Alan will continue to enjoy fine quality bog-reading for many years to come! The paper format still remains a more tangible one. Rotting moth eaten copies from the early years can add to recollections of those bygone days when we all could run twice as fast but still got burnt off by club oldies (rather than by club wippersnappers as we do now). Meanwhile, maybe you could intercept the newsletter and just leave him one page at a time to read so improving your chances of access to the loo?

100 members on e-mail is a start but that still leaves another 200 who have to wait for the paper. Of course there is always the option to receive DPNews in electronic format - I'm happy to send anyone the final newsletter as a MS Word file each quarter. Maybe in the future members could opt for this as a way of both saving some of the World's trees and part of their subscriptions?

So maybe not the answer you hoped for but I suppose you don't have to tell Alan that...until he starts reading this new edition!

Mike

P.S. Glad you like the website - thanks.

> >

MANCHESTER "WALSH" UNITED?

Dear Mike,

There was an article in New Scientist on May 15th about a 'revolutionary' new type of stud for football boots. The stud has a pyramidal shape rather than the traditional truncated cone. The manufacturers (Mitre) claim that the improved grip leads to a 13% increase in acceleration - equivalent to a half metre advantage when sprinting over a five metres.

A couple of weeks later (June 5) NS published the following reply:

STUDS IN THE HILLS

Fell runners have known for some time that pyramidal studs are superior to round ones. Norman Walsh of Bolton started equipping his fell running shoes with square pyramidal studs many years ago and rival manufacturers have followed suit. They give a much more positive grip than round studs, and their distinctive pattern can often be observed on any British mountain. It is surprising that footballers have taken so long to catch on. - David Rosen, Lancaster

Who would have thought that fell running was at the forefront of sports science! How long, I wonder, before David Beckham abandons his red jersey for a go-faster brown singlet?

Gavin Williams



IFeatures

THE WARTS' WINTER SERIES 1998 / 99

Some thoughts and observations.

There were some complaints regarding last years warts winter series diary, in that I had failed to mention some of the worthier names. So with this in mind, an almost full list of participants (with apologies to those omitted):

Full Timers: Tansy, Guy Seaman, Andrew Malkin, Andrew Harmer, Clive Last, James Flatulent, Maurice Musson, John Woodcock (retired), Pete Gorvett, Phil Cox, Mick Robinson, Hugh Cotton, John Soady , Phil Tanner, Me.

Occasional Part-Timers, Mr and Mrs Wiegand, Richard Hakes, Tom Westgate - when there was some gloating to be done, Hilary Musson (when the weather was nice), Jan Cave (ditto), Lynn Bland (ditto), Rod Stewart (aka Andy Moore - once and never again!)

30th September 1998 - Hathersage

A hastily arranged early season event. Richard Hakes with his boundless enthusiasm for inorganic objects old and smelly, tried desperately to transfer some of his bonhomie to the world-weary group that he dragged round in the pouring rain. The run began from the Millstone pub, up a very tedious road onto a featureless (by now) moor, upon which Richard insisted there were fascinating antiquities, the sort of fascinating antiquities that caused the group to yawn a lot. We found the first fascinating antiquity - a hole in the ground that we proceeded to fill up with urine. The general consensus was that this was what pre-historic man and woman would probably have done in it anyway.

Despite a faint air of annoyance from Richard, his enthusiasm was unabated and off we went in search of a stone with nobbles on it (was there a stain on Richard's shorts at this point, he was so excited!). We world-weary ones, naturally shared his excitement especially as it was now pissing down. The climax of the night involved seeking (and finding) an ancient hole in the ground, which unfortunately Fulton had managed to find first and in which ancient monument he was to be found micturating and complaining that it "stank of piss" - another prehistoric privy we agreed as we joined him. The heady delights of this night culminated in a few bevies in the pub and home.

28th October - Grouse Inn, Froggatt Edge

A small but select turn-out - thank goodness we didn't do the Holmes route of last year and three cheers for Andy Harmer for taking us on a really interesting route (the one that we did the year before that and the year before that and...). Any way the mini-bar was consumed at Wellington's monument in the post- Karrimor gloom and rain so it had its high point (note the poignant use of the singular).

A noteworthy and very rare appearance for Andy Moore who turned up because the pub was "near his house"(?) and who nonetheless complained incessantly all the way round about how this was the last time he was coming out with these silly buggers - so no tee-shirt for him!

18th November - Snake Inn

Yet another small but select group. Kimosavie Harmer was mysteriously absent, no doubt testing us to see whether we could find Hartshorn in the dark. After trudging about for an hour in thick mist and brown "custard", the only point of agreement that we could reach was that we were quite probably on Kinder (Hartshorn, don't make me laugh). A northerly compass bearing brought us to impassable cliffs which we were forced to skirt round even though some of the hardier souls insisted on attempting to obtain at least one broken bone to prove that we had tried. Once again the minibar proved to be the high point although the run down, when we did eventually find Fairbrook was (moderately) enjoyable.

9th December - Strines Inn

Tom Westgate, unusually for him, appeared on this run. The reason soon became apparent as he regaled us with stories of his intense bravery and manliness in coming fifteenth in the Trog the Sunday before (even now I find myself incapable of stifling a yawn). The "run" itself turned out to be something of an epic - when the mist cleared a bit, you caught sight of your fingertips, however, irritatingly enough Mr Harmer managed to find the shooting cabin in Gravy Clough and the Wetstones without so much as a map. Truly the material of which heroes are made (pause to place fingers down the throat). However, I'm pleased to say that he did make a complete balls up of the way back, taking us down a virtually sheer drop and up another on the other side (and, yes, he did struggle a bit- not quite the intrepid hero after all). There were murmurings of mutiny from the assembly as we approached the top but ignoring the very inviting path, the bugger set off across thigh high heather and tussocks and we were forced to follow as only he had the foresight to bring a compass and know how to use it - what a man! The Strines pub was wonderful though and worth all the effort - it would probably have been just as wonderful without the effort but some people are just peculiar like that.

30th December - Yorkshire Bridge

Quite a pleasant almost sultry night - a small post-Christmas group including three wimmen (because the weather was not too threatening). The route was once again a group decision by Mr Harmer - up to the top of Win Hill, along the ridge to Wooller Knoll, down (oh what a surprise) to Ladybower, run along a track (not really in keeping with the tradition) and back up to Hollins Cross (more in keeping with the masochist tradition). From here back to Win Hill and down to sanctuary. A steady night, we did meet three others who had confidently parked in the pub car park and wondered why nobody else had turned up- they, it must be said, took an easy route, the one that everybody else in the party save Mr H. Had wanted to do!

13th January - Edale

True warring weather - cold, very windy and snow. Another surprise, Roger Baumeister had decided to try and repeat his death defying venture of the previous year when he nearly succumbed to the elements, and put in an appearance. The rescue team was briefed well in advance, but no, he managed to stay within shouting distance and was even heard to ask our club chairman to do something obscene to one of his body parts when a disparaging remark was made about last year's performance. Having mulled over the offer, we decided that on balance and considering the cold and what it does to certain parts, to decline. The minibar was opened on top of Grindslow Knoll in the sort of weather that makes men of you (or silly buggers depending on your point of view) - howling wind and lashing rain, a bit of alcohol simply increased the excitement, the frissance of exposure nipping at the nethers. On we ran, duly refreshed down to Crowden Brook which resembled a scene from "Ski Sunday", frozen solid and treacherous so we, for the most part, slid down on our bottles on the grass next to it. By this time the rain was really raining, in fact it was raining so hard that few superlatives can describe this adequately - suffice it to say, it was raining.

3rd February - Snake Inn

Another epic (don't you get a bored with the word) - howling wind etc. etc. A change from the usual trudge up Kinder which was deemed too wet and miserable even for the hardest of souls. Unusually for a Warts' night out, we all agreed on the route without the normal ritual of wrangling before conceding to Mr Harmer. Oyster Clough shooting cabin up to Alport trig. No problem with finding the cabin but quite a problem after this. No names will be mentioned (A.H.) but a brief check on the compass showed that we had indeed turned a complete 180° about face shortly after this and headed back. By now and having suffered the indignity of being put on the correct route by a former Pertex holder, we stumbled down in to Alport Dale and up to the trig. The wind by now, was beginning to worry one or two people (note how I'm resisting the urge to make a joke at the expense of Mr. Fulton) - notably an occasional wart (J.S. just to dispel any false rumours). He was heard to say in somewhat trembling tones, that perhaps it would be a good idea to go straight back from Alport trig the "easy way". The wind whipped away the howls of mocking laughter - didn't he know that there is no easy way back from Alport in the dark. So just to rub it in, we took the long way back following the T.T. route through Alport farm (where a strange huddle of faces round the window was seen to be peering out).

24th February - King's Tree

Unusually not an epic - perfect weather, full hip-flasks, a crisp covering of snow, wonderful moonlit views - "jolly slapping on the back and all boys together" type of run - bit boring really.

24th March - Lower Bradfield

Well, how the girls did bicker. Mr(s) Holmes whilst adopting a suitably Churchillian pose argued for the eastern route up Onesmoor - hand on hip, jutting jaw, no way he was going to concede to Mr Harmer this time! (unfortunately he totally destroyed this impressive image as he struggled to adjust his equally defiant bollocks with the other)

GETTING THE HORNS

Winning the mixed team prize in the Watershed was the pinnacle of my running career! I looked forward to seeing the magnificent trophy sitting on the mantelpiece at night and my desk during the day.

Lynne took the trophy home first for the 1st quarter where it was soon rejected by other occupants of the house and passed to Kevin. A short fortnight later and the trophy was brought to the club as "everyone had seen it" at Kev's so it was mine and Jan's for 10 wonderful months. I quite fancied the last quarter for myself as it would include Christmas and New Year so I decided to let Jan have her months of glory next. The problem is that I don't see Jan often as she lives over in Whaley Bridge so I decided to post the trophy to her with the thoughts that the sooner she received it - the sooner I would get it back.

Some months later, I met Jan at a local race and asked her what Tony thought of "The Horns" and I rapidly realised from her puzzled look that she had not received it - PANIC! What shall I do, consult the Club Postman? Best not, in case the news breaks and it makes lead story on Radio Sheffield - then what will happen? Will I be drummed out of the FRA? Shall I tell the High Peak Marathon organisers? Shall I start to organise a replacement? What about another sport etc. etc.?

I contacted Parcelforce who sent me a form to fill in which I duly did and returned same by return of post. A fortnight later, Parcelforce sent me a letter asking why I had not replied to the first - the omens were not good. I fired a second letter off to Parcelforce claims Centre (a Snotogram actually) and I sat back and waited. Two weeks later a letter arrived assuring me that "Parcelforce Worldwide takes claims very seriously and we aim to deal with this matter in 30 days" - OK, but I'm not interested in Worldwide, just Sheffield to Whaley Bridge and don't even begin to think claims, where's me chuffin' Horns gone?

Thornbridge came and I casually dropped the subject into the Conversation whilst the assembled company were "in their cups" as I thought a bit of preparation before the awful truth became public knowledge may be sensible but nobody seemed to notice - I might get away with this one!

After Thornbridge and I decided it was time to come clean and tell Howard White at High Peak Marathon - well he lives in Wales now which seems suitably far away and the Parcelforce 30 days were up tomorrow. With a heavy heart, I walked home from work and resolved to ring Howard that night. I walked into the house and the phone rang - it was Jan letting me know the news that 3 months after posting the Horns had turned up. I cannot begin to describe the feeling, it was like winning the Watershed all over again. There must be a lesson in there somewhere, but I don't want to think about it - I still get that prickly feeling down the back of my neck at what might have been!

Jim Fulton

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MORE THOUGHTS ON ACCESS

President's post AGM thoughts

Sorry to miss the AGM, at least I set off but packed in at Peak Dale, returning home under the weather. No doubt you had a lively meeting, especially relating to access. The way I see it one has to work for it if you require it... only people can provoke People Power. The Ramblers' Association has worked hard on this issue. You do not take things for granted and also give credit where it is due. "Don't get political" I hear, fair enough... but after all, it is the present Government which will implement legislation for access to four million acres in due course.

If I go back in time pre World War II there was very little access in this country. People were put in jail trying to set foot on Kinder Scout : I know one such "criminal" a friend and hero of mine. There was no fell running as we have today. It does not seem fair to me that a person or persons can own vast acres of mountain and moorland and make it forbidden access. It may be due to the raising of grouse to be shot at a later date but with that often comes the desire to keep private the owners' attempts to make sure there are no predators of the grouse. Fox, badger, stoat, weasel, birds of prey and carrion birds have all be trapped, poisoned, shot or gassed for the last 100 years. Tell me differently? I only wish you could, but I have lived close to the edge of a grouse moor for 30 years. Real birdlovers like the RSPB welcome access and the freedom to roam.... Wonderful.

While I'm on the topic, on Skyline day I put out a begging bowl for collection for the Ramblers' Association to help fund proceedings against Van Hoostaaten, the notorious right of way and footpath blocker. He claims we are the scum of the earth. Shamefully I only got a measly 50p but in the end collected £30 mainly from Rambler friends. Shouldn't it be together we stand divided we fall and all that?

"Quit moaning Mitchell..... get out running". Have a good year!

Eric Mitchell
Founder member

> >

In support of club involvement

The Government's intention is to introduce a Countryside Access and Amenities Bill but, sadly, the Guardian reported on 17 May, that John Prescott had lost out in the cabinet battle to prioritise legislation. The fight goes on. The recent consultation papers had begun to indicate that various forums would negotiate the introduction of Open Access. No doubt the Ramblers' Association will continue lobbying to pressurise the Government and Country Landowners Association to open up the countryside.

At the AGM a large number of abstentions were noted at the vote over support for the Right to Roam. Over the coming months, the mood is likely to be low key. Comments such as "It doesn't matter", "Let's continue in our old style". I don't believe that is acceptable.

One member, who spoke against opening up the land, believed we, or our fellow man, had trampled that which we want to protect. "Keep off Kinder" seemed to be the message, a view shared from a different perspective by John Derry in 1929 (*Across the Derbyshire Moors* 15th edition) believing it to be a wild and awful place. In the same book however, he extols the superb views and magnificent walk of trespassing from Back Tor to Ashopton, now increasingly paved. So much of this book relates to avoiding keepers or using old Bridleways.

In 1930 Alfred Wainwright went to the Westmoreland Hills for the first time. Hunter Davies (Wainwright - *The Biography*, (1995)) quotes "We marvelled at the freedom to roam the hills without restriction or hindrance. We could wander anywhere above the intake walls of the farms without reprimand. There were no policemen, no keep out notices, no warning to trespassers as there were at home, but absolute freedom of access." 70 years on the situation hasn't entirely changed. The Trough of Bowland is still the Dukes preserve and the Fitzwilliam Estate and others have freshly painted signs urging you to Keep Out.

As a club we are not a political organisation but our very essence (unless we wish to emulate Penistone Footpath Runners) implies the right to roam. We may not as a small entity with few official roles wish to campaign or be part of organisational change, (viz these various forums) but we should at least openly support and contribute to the movement that, hopefully, will bring a more open but responsible approach to access over the uplands of northern England.

Andy Harmer

Fury as right to roam bill is shelved

Guardian : 17/5/99

"Labour's long-promised bill on the right to roam and protection of wildlife is likely to be dropped from next year's legislation in favour of laws on Commons seizure, freedom of information and transport...

...Civil servants had cleverly devised a draft bill that both incorporated Labour's plans on right to roam with tougher protection for wildlife, 6,500 sites of special scientific interest, and strengthening of laws protecting areas of outstanding natural beauty like the Chiltern hills in Buckinghamshire. It even included more protection for hedgerows.

But, for the second year running, Mr Prescott has been elbowed aside by cabinet colleagues in his bid to get a major slice of legislation next year. They have turned down his request for two bills, saying he must choose between a transport bill and the countryside access bill."

THE BOB GRAHAM ROUND 1999

The club's success in the BG over the last three years must have led some people to think we were invincible; but this year these thoughts were almost cancelled out.

On Friday afternoon on June 18th I was driving to the Lakes in heat wave conditions. I was thinking that with seven good contenders an excellent weekend was in store. The attempt started at 7pm on Friday evening; the weather forecast was for cloud with some drizzle. The first leg to Threlkeld went smoothly enough; the second leg across the Dodds was harder because of low cloud. Everyone was grateful for Chris Barber's navigating skills.

After the Langdales the weather worsened, with rain and the wind getting stronger. In Wasdale the support team were gazing anxiously towards the Scafells; the schedule was going amiss- nearly 2 hours adrift. The runners finally arrived, wet and bedraggled, and four of them retired.

Three contenders carried on - Andy Dickinson, Kevin Saville and Chris Ledger, who had injured his knee. The weather in Wasdale was terrible and conditions on the Tops could only be imagined. We were the only vehicles in Honister car park, which was under two inches of water.

Andy Dickenson was the first of our three heroes to arrive; he had just over 3 hours left to beat the 24 hour deadline. We thought he would make it as he set off up Dale Head into the teeth of the gale. As time ticked on we thought no-one else had a chance with less than 2 1/2 hours remaining Kevin Saville came in: he said he was carrying on come what may. He grabbed his rice pudding and a spoon and with a determined look set off again. He stormed over the last three peaks in great style and ran the last 4 1/2 road miles in 34 minutes to reach the Moot Hall in 23 hours and 56mins. Andy Dickenson had already finished in 23 1/2 hours. Chris Ledger retired on Red Pike and was taken down to the Wasdale Inn and rescued later.

Our two successful runners turned what could have been a dismal day into an evening celebration at the "Salutation." Thanks to all our supporters and to members of Penistone Footpath Runners who were a great help on the day.

Colin Henson

And one of the successful contenders writes...

We set off as planned at 7.00pm from the Moot Hall in dry but overcast conditions and were strictly adhering to the schedule, walking as soon as we came to any gradient. The view was admired as we headed up Skiddaw and it turned out to be one of the few occasions we actually had one to admire during the next 24 hours. We all kept together and arrived at Threlkeld to the welcome sight of tea and food. For some reason I thought I'd have time to contemplate changing clothes but it all seemed a bit hectic and all I wanted was to drink tea in large quantities. At least though I'd been capable of reasonably clear thought then the rest of the road stops I did as I was told and cleared off after only 5 minutes, which was just as well as it turned out.

So we headed off into the night 5 minutes ahead of schedule. This section was done entirely in the mist and cloud and of course in the dark not helped by the untimely breakdown of my head torch. Having not run through the night before it was all a bit surreal running in the mist with head torches and I have to admit probably not my favourite pastime although subsequently I've been told that having the head torch at your side helps, I'll reserve judgement on that one I think.

It was during the night that my right knee started to give me "jip" and by Dunmail I was struggling badly on the descents, this wasn't helped by the news that we had lost over an hour over that section. I must have been struggling both mentally as well as physically as I ate a hotdog without a second thought and I'm normally a veggie! After no time at all we were off again this time with an appointed supporter so Paul Sanderson was to look after my every need, he did a tremendous job and ensured I was eating and drinking at every available opportunity as well as attending to the knee pain with a steady supply of nurofen.

Once on Bowfell the weather started to deteriorate a little as did the visibility. We had made up some time by then but this was then lost over the slippery rocks as we made our way to Scafell Pike. It was at the rope climbing section that we were finally split up and this may have proved to be a decisive point in the attempt, as the first few over this included Kevin and myself who went on and managed to complete the round. Dave Lockwood then took three of us off Scafell down to Wasdale Head.

I have to admit that my knee was giving me a fair bit of pain by now and the wait at the top of the rope climb had allowed it to stiffen up considerably. This allied to the fact that we were now almost two hours down was contributing to serious thoughts of packing it all in. However I had not reckoned with Rick Ansell being there at the bottom waiting to take over, he wouldn't hear of any thoughts of giving up and I meekly complied. So after a quick mug of tea Rick set off with the three of us Kevin, Duncan and myself on the section that would decide whether we would make it. I think it was Rick's comment to the effect of "I haven't driven 300 miles to see you sit it out here" or words to that effect that swayed any argument if you could call it that. By now once on top of Yewbarrow the wind was blowing and the rain wasn't far off.

By Redpike I wasn't feeling too bad and Rick decided we should push on so by Steeple it was just Rick and I. Kev and Duncan (who had just had the misfortune to re-dislocate his shoulder!) pushed on with their supporter, soon to be joined by Gavin.

Rick's navigation then came to the fore as we battled our way through the rest of the section. I was now being hampered with diarrhoea as well too many nurofen tablets possibly. So we arrived at Honister at 4pm with 3 hours left, Jacqui my wife thought that I looked awful coming down the hill but was surprised to hear everyone contradicting her maybe she had forgotten that I had been out for 21 hours by now!

Andy Howard now joined Rick and would continue through the road section which was just as well Rick being averse to running on the roads. After not being even allowed to sit down at Honister we were off the stomach held out until Hindsgarth but frequent stops were required after that until we reached the road.

A small group were there to help at the carpark as I was shed of clothes and my footwear was changed is this what its like being Royalty, I bet they don,t have to run quite so far to get help. The final 5 miles and 74 minutes to do it in I could picture the finish and I didn't need reminding to do that as I'd been doing that for the last 2 hours.

Andy saw me safely to the Moot Hall and I touched down at 6.26pm with a whole 34 minutes to spare and it was still raining but hell didn't it feel good. It was then a nervous wait as the news was that Kevin was on the road and very close to completing but it was going to be close. In the end he timed it far better than me and came in with less than 5 minutes to spare a superb effort after all that effort to then have to push the road section as well. You will have heard it all before but those 24 hrs are now etched in my memory never to be forgotten, the agony the ecstasy but most of all the companionship on the fells.

I did make the pub but not for long but I'll be back but supporting I think next time.

Andy Dickenson

Reports and Results

THREE PEAKS RACE : 25 APRIL 1999

Not a real fell race this of course, but it makes a good long run early in the season. Conditions were heavy underfoot and while there was a stiff breeze at our backs for the long, cross country section, it was in our faces on the run in from Ingleborough, making tired legs more tired. There were no records broken and nobody got round in under three hours but there were two magnificent runs. Firstly by Angela Mudge who finished 11th overall, beating the usual winner Sarah Rowell. This was the best place ever by a lady. Secondly our own Dave Tait had a stormer to finish in the top twenty. Once again I failed to break three hours, though felt I would have with drier conditions. At least I turned the tables on Andy after his fine run at Edale. It was good to see Neil Piper's renaissance too.

1	M Croasdale (Bingley)	3:04:48	62	A Dickenson	Rick Ansell	3:45:08
7	G Schofield [1st V40]	3:15:36	168	A Jones		4:19:47
19	D Tait	3:26:33	291	N Piper		4:55:20
29	R Ansell	3:33:47	380	started, 333 finished		

Team		Vets Team	
1 Clayton	25	1 Horwich	35
6 Dark Peak	278	11 Dark Peak	478

22 teams finished

15 teams finished

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CALLOW : 2 MAY 1999

3 1/2 miles 1600'

Third round of English Championships: Short

Our V50 team must have picked up some more points in Shropshire. Only a short race, but regulars of these Church Stretton hills know that they are very sharp indeed. Up, down, no sign of any flat- a strong championship course.

Dave Tait

1 G Bland (Borrowdale)	29:12
47 D Tait	35:43
97 R Marlow	41:09
102 R Smith	41:46
110 K Jones	42:55

154 started

> >

PENISTONE HILL RACE : 3 MAY 1999

7 miles 1055'

So Bob mutters out those excuses about not having raced for months. Nothing much changes as he led home the other club runners on a dry warm day. First team prize with Roger splitting the two oldies.

Dave Tait

1 J Newns (Salford)	45:41	35 R Hakes	55:30
9 B Toogood [1st V50]	50:20	50 R Freeman	58:14
10 R Woods	50:40	58 C Barber	59:06
13 D Tait	51:35	62 T Westgate	59:52
18 A Moore	52:50	76 D Markham	61:43
29 A Kitchen	54:24	84 N Carr	64:11
		93 M Arundale	67:27

127 Ran

> >

DONARD - COMMEDAGH : 22 MAY 1999

7ml/3100'

Second event of British Championships: Medium

Not really the easiest of places to get to, maybe eventually flying from Sheffield will be available. This was my first visit to Ireland. The race started beside the sea at Newcastle, and climbed over the tops of the Mourne Mountains, an excellent course. There seemed to be hills all around, an ideal holiday opportunity (and slip an Irish race in). We were made extremely welcome by everyone we met. Totally recommended!

Dave Tait

1	I Holmes (Bingley)	1:03:29
35	S Bell	1:14:21
40	D Tait	1:14:58
145 starters		

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ILAM FETE RACE : MAY 31 1999

Fine weather and near perfect conditions though the river was a little full. We had a record turnout of fifty runners with twenty under 16s, and many families all running. Without Al Sealy, Andy Jenkins or Phil Crowson we were guaranteed a new name on the trophy. After three years of DPFRR winners we had a new one, Robin Button of Staff Moorlands, third last year, who won in 35:21.

Four runners including Dark Peak's Gavin Williams were together three quarters of the way round at the river crossing, but Robin's strength on the second big climb of Bunster Hill let him pull away to victory. Sue Taylor of Cheadle won the ladies race in 45:00 making Karen Dalton's Dark Peak record of 37:28 look increasingly impressive.

Two or three runners went 100 yards off course [*ed. plus the early leader lost several minutes heading off in the wrong direction*], otherwise my battle against the sheep eating the marker tape was a success. Another Fulton milestone was passed. Commonly finishing behind the first lady, this Ilam fete race was the first time Jim was outpaced by the first U16 to the finish line. Readers can be reassured that Jim's relaxed performance is only a precursor to him returning to his tigerish best.

Oh, and we made £100 for the local village school. Come along next year.... Though not too many of you because I don't want it to become a pain to organise!

Jon Cant

1	Robin Button (Staffs M)	35:21	7	Chris Barber	38:18
2	Andy Bell	36:23	8	Reg Amor	39:17
3	Gavin Williams	?	9	Jim Fulton	43:02
6	Mike Pedley	38:08	20	Joe Oldfield	46:05

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BUCKDEN PIKE : 20 JUNE 1999

Still on a high from the LAMM the previous weekend I decided to stop and run one of the classic courses as I was driving through on the day of the race. The big mistake was to take it easy. The final descent makes Crookstone look almost flat and probably matches a direct descent down the steep side of Fin Cop or Bunster Hill for gradient. Too relaxed, I slipped and slammed my heel on a rock, the back of my shoe crunching into the achilles. Three minutes lost as I hobbled to the finish, more importantly, so were the rest of my plans for summer fell racing!

MP

1	Ian Holmes (Bingley)	31:05
34	Mike Pedley	44:13
79 finished		

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HOLME MOSS : 20TH JUNE 1999

16 miles 4000'

Fourth event of English Championships : Long

This was the only championship event to be held locally this year. What a shame that the strength of our club was not shown where it really counts.

					Dave Tait
1	G Bland (Borrowdale)	2:07:23	133	K Jones	3:01:49
20	A Ward	2:24:28	136	M Cochrane	3:03:17
37	D Tait [5th V50]	2:30:00	144	Ja Smith	3:03:46
50	M Wynne	2:37:09	214	J Myers	3:31:46
103	J Lawrenson	2:52:25			

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CROOKSTONE CRASHOUT NO 31 (VIA EDALE Y.H.) : 23RD JUNE

Despite attempts to introduce a new checkpoint (444) near Jaggars Clough, the recent route was declared. A gaggle of 5/6 gathered at Jubilee cabin before Dave and Gavin took the best line to the YH. Approaching Kinder Edge Mark tried to close on the leaders, with Phil not far behind. The mist had closed in too and few returned without stories to tell. Dave and Gavin remained sane but Phil Crowson eventually turned up "hours" later rambling incoherently about Grindsbrook. As he had no map, compass or helly he could easily have come to grief on Grinah Stones, Crowden Tower or Lost Lad. **I would strongly advise carrying a compass, map (&whistle?) & long sleeved top.** I was increasingly anxious about having to call the Rescue as night approached. The chasing group did little better; Rob, Roy, Paul and myself took in Jaggars for a second time. The only acceptable route choice of the night was by Jim, Tim, and Mike who found treasure near CP2 and handed the booty to the warden at Edale.

This is a rather fine route taking in the YH. However the original direct climb to the Knoll has to be preferred. I will explore the 444 point as the pundits appear interested. I reiterate again, should any "stars" feel up to challenging the records of 29:37 Malcolm or 29:40 myself (vets) the original classic could reappear.

				Andy Harmer	
1	Dave Tait	56:44	12	Darryl Bradbury	70:33
2	Gavin Williams	57:27	13	Phil Tanner	70:56
3	Mark Chapman	62:30	14	Richard Hakes	71:00
4	Rob Davison	66:18	15	Pete Farnell	71:02
5	Andy Harmer	66:21	16	K Marshall	71:10
6	Paul Sanderson	66:27	17	John Myers	76:36
7	Roy Small	67:05	18	Jim Orr	87:52
8	Tom Westgate	68:45	19	Tim Atkin	88:25
9	Dave Hay	69:01	20	Mike Browell	89:32
10	Chris Barber	70:01	21	Ron Cave (18mins late)	96:30
11	Hugh Cotton	70:20	22	Phil Crowson	>2hours
			DNF	Kevin Saville	

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BLACKAMoor : 24 JUNE 1999

1	K.Webster(Matlock)	40:23	67	J.Lawrenson	50:37
3	W.Sullivan	42:23	70	JaSmith(1st F V.40)	50:42
4	S.Bell	42:25	80	R.Small	51:49
5	A.Sealy	43:19	85	H.Swindells	52:09
7	M.Salkild (1st M.40)	43:50	96	M.McCart	53:07
8	M.Wynne	44:04	105	K.Jones	53:30
10	M.Chapman	44:27	114	P.Farrell	54:11
17	D.Tait (1st M.50)	45:11	123	T.Cochrane	54:37
18	K.McGrath	45:22	124	T.Westgate	54:44
19	R.Woods	45:31	128	B.Thackery(1st V.60)	55:24
33	D.Allen	47:50	130	D.Smith	55:51
35	A.Moore	48:03	140	C.Henson	57:09
36	D.Bradbury	48:08	143	M.Arundale	57:47
37	D.Beresford	48:11	144	K.Saville	58:12
44	R.Freeman	48:56	149	G.Nichols	58:32
45	R.Caves	48:59	155	H.Cotton	58:56
46	C.Barber	49:10	158	A.Jorgensen	59:30
47	M.Harvey	49:12	166	M.Poulter	60:18
53	R.Hopkinson	49:38	173	P.Macfarlane	60:58
54	P.Cox	49:40	188	H.Elleker	63:27
55	D.Charles	49:41	197	T.Mackey	65:24
58	D.Lockwood	49:50	202	M.Browell	67:06
61	B.English	50:01			

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KINDER TROG : 27 JUNE 1999

1	N.Barrable (Livingston)	1:53:42	48	G.Williams	2:21:04
4	M.Wynne (1st V.40)	1:57:34	50	J.Lawrenson	2:21:18
16	R.Woods	2:05:52	56	D.Soles	2:23:48
17	D.Tait (1st V.50)	2:06:10	76	A.Carrington	2:43:17
23	R.Marlow	2:14:51	82	T.Woodhouse	2:48:58
30	P.Elliot	2:16:54			

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TIDESWELL : 30TH JUNE 1999

4.5miles 820'

1	B Carlton (Mercia)	27:15	34	D Hay	33:09
2	M Hayman	27:33	36	H Bloor [1st lady]	33:41
3	A Sealy	27:40	38	T Cochrane	33:52
7	C Adams	28:35	41	P Tanner	34:37
12	P Cox	30:24	47	R Cooper	35:34
16	A Moore	30:56	49	J Fulton	36:27
18	R Freeman	31:16	50	M Arundale	36:41
25	D Holmes	31:55	54	R Bryce	37:42
28	R Hakes	32:32	56	T Mackey	38:15
29	P Sanderson	32:38	57	T Atkin	38:43
67 finished					

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HOPE WAKES : 30 JUNE

4m 650'

The conditions overcast and warm, with little or no wind, the ground dry and firm, were ideal for fast running... and so it proved in the person of Jo Smith. Jo set a new ladies course record of 27mins and 22secs easily breaking the 1988 record of 28:37 set by Carol Haigh (now Greenwood). Jo also became the first lady to gain a top ten place in the race (finishing ninth) since 1980 when Helen Elleker was probably the first ever lady entrant.

Ged Cudahay easily won the race establishing and extending his lead after the climb. Steve Penney similarly gained on the field in the run in to finish a comfortable second with brothers Simon and Richard Patton just holding off Paul Young. Also worthy of mention are Mark Salkild, first Veteran in seventh place, Jonny Wilson an unattached runner who was the first Hope Valley local and Dave Tait placing eighteenth and first Super Vet.

HATHERSAGE : 5 JULY 99

At last at the third attempt the organisers have come up with a decent course. The first, abandoned about four years ago, was three miles long and barely worth turning up for. The second seemed to spend as much time on tarmac as on fell, but this year what a pleasant surprise! A brief check of the route in the pre- race deluge and an extra mile had appeared. The route mirrors the Terminator course - up the A625 (briefly) before turning towards High Lees. Once out of the woods you veer right down the track to cross the Burbage road. Then wind your way under Winyard 's Nick up to Higger and over it, cross the Burbage road again, and down the track to Callow Bank, straight on down the road before cutting into Toothill Farm, then eyeballs out to the village.

I was so chuffed about the new course, a good position and the fact it was still tipping it down, so went straight to the pub... where I found out later that I had been omitted from the race results. I hadn't gone the wrong way and been disqualified had I?

Last year Bamford came up with a decent course, this year Hathersage.... You never know next year the Hope side street race might follow suit!

Andy Moore

1	Andy Bristow (Hallam.H)	28.06	37	Ron Caves	33.03
6	Alan Ward	29.47	39	Chris Barber	33.13
10	Roger Woods	30.25	41	Roger Freeman	33.34
13	Jo Smith [1 st F]	30.44	49	Roy Marlow [2 nd M50]	34.17
15	Gavin Williams	31.04	58	Philippa Leach [3 rd F]	34.52
19	Robert Hutton	31.50	62	Matthew Hulley	35.22
21	Kevin McGrath	32.00	80	Guy Seaman	37.00
29	Phil Crowson	32.38	94	Clive Wilson	38.27
31	Andy Bamett	32.47	111	Geoff Nichols	40.20
32	Bill Hanley	32.51	112	Mike Arundale	40.27
33	Chaanah Patton [2 nd F]	32.52	115	John Myers	40.40
36	Rob Davison	32.57	118	Tim Mackey	40.56

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THURLSTONE CHASE 10 JULY 1999

1	P.Young (Hallam.)	23:40	
5	M.Salkild	24:55	1stM40
7	C.Manthorpe	25:45	
9	D.Tait	25:51	1stM50
11	B.Toogood	26:15	2ndM50
50	E.Rybinski	30:51	

100 ran

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MELANTEE : 17 JULY 1999

3.5m, 1500ft.

British Championships - Medium

Heavy overnight and morning rain had soaked these lower slopes of Ben Nevis, so the very steep descent was a matter of not if, but when you fell. The bog at the bottom was good for a headlong crash! A lot too far to travel, really, for a 3.5 miles race!

Dave Tait

1	G.Bland (Borrowdale)	27:48
34	D.Tait	33:08
47	S.Bell	34:22

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CAKES OF BREAD : 21 JULY 1999

Despite the annual event being omitted from the magazine, a goodly turnout of 34 charged away from Fairholmes. Roger had little competition and won comfortably in a slow time, with Tim keeping Phil at bay. Gavin got away from the chasing group where Ron Caves ran really well to take 5th. Great to see Andy Forsyth keeping in trim on a short visit from South Africa. Darrell was well up at the Cakes with John Soady but both struggled on the rough and descents. Bob hobbled in, feeling an injury picked up at Wasdale, whilst Alan showed he is now coming back to form. On a breezy evening we were, for once, untroubled by midges!

Andy Harmer

1	Roger Woods	45:40	18	David Beresford	54:14
2	Tim Tett	47:17	19	Bob Berzins	55:30
3	Phil Crowson	47:38	20	Alan Yates	57:07
4	Gavin Williams	48:46	21	Pete Farnell	57:11
5	Ron Caves	49:39	22	Richard Hakes	57:30
6	Andy Harmer	49:45	23	Don Longley	57:37
7	Andy Jenkins	49:50	24	Jack Straker	58:27
8	Paul Sanderson	51:02	25	Kevin Saville	58:28
9	John Soady	52:04	26	Maurice Musson	58:50
10	Roger Freeman	52:14	27	John Myers	58:58
11	Andy Forsyth	52:35	28	Tim Hanley	59:32
12	Rob Davison	52:55	29	Guy Seaman	61:23
13	Chris Barber	53:02	30	Andy Malkin	63:38
14	Roy Small	53:30	31	Ann Watmore	64:40
15	Willy Gibbons	54:00	32	Jim Orrell	64:41
16	Tom Westgate	54:00	33	Phil Tanner	64:57
17	Darryl Bradbury	54:02	34	Mike Browell	69:59

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SNOWDON INTERNATIONAL RACE : 24 JULY 1999

I enjoyed this year's race, being my first fell race of 1999! Had a cracking breakfast at the café in Capel Curig, and then got ready for the event. Didn't need to do much warming up, as this was the hottest day of the year so far. I had a disappointing run, recording a personal worst time, but a check of the results confirmed what a good run Jacky had - first lady non-international home.

Steve Palfreyman

The day proved exceptionally hot, times were slow as a result and a number of people suffered from heat exhaustion. As usual a good meal was provided afterwards which we supplemented with several bottles of wine!

Jackie Smith

		Summit	Finish
1	Neil Wilkinson Scotland	43:15	1:05:51
88	Mark Salkild		1:29:57
107	Jacky Smith	59:28	1:31:52 [9 th F, 1 st non-international F]
133	Andrew Kitchen	1:01:49	1:35:05
181	Neil Goldsmith		1:40:56
204	Roger Smith	1:02:28	1:43:47
253	Steve Palfreyman	1:08:55	1:49:04
370	finished		

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ROBIN HOOD MONUMENTAL FELL RACE (BASLOW) : 27 JULY 1999

Once again a surprisingly low turnout of DPFR for the "new" Baslow, (now officially named the Monumental Fell Race) compared with us having a third of the field for the old course. The new course is very very nearly as good./fast as the old, (not getting lost and ending up at the Cavendish helped!), but I do miss the finish through Chatsworth. The results showed some unusual DPFR grouping in the top 40. Surely we weren't chatting en route?

1	S Penney (Chesterfield)	34:21	33	H Swindells	40:34
3	T Tett	36:01	34	N Bowler	40:35
4	M Salkild [1st M40]	36:12	59	D Pelly	43:31
5	Jo Smith [1st F]	36:21	68	G Seaman	44:39
6	C Adams	36:25	73	C Wilson	44:59
13	M Smith	38:14	76	J Griffiths	45:23
16	A Moore	38:38	83	R Hopkinson	46:35
18	P Cox	38:51	92	T Mackey	47:19
21	A Jenkins	39:11	94	M Arundale	47:39
22	R Freeman	39:16	124	P Guerrier	53:22
23	A Barnett	39:20	126	M Browell	53:55
32	P Gorvett	40:29	131	D Hopkinson	55:29

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and looking up at the grey clouds in the sky. The weather didn't look too promising so I opted to take my windproof along in my already well stuffed bum bag.

The gun went off and we all headed off up the road and then a track. I positioned myself near the back of the field as climbing isn't really my strength and I knew I had a lot of it to do. Even so I slowly started to work my way up the field. After a bit of a stop-start session the pace settled do to a very brisk walk up through the forest. This I didn't find too bad as at least today I wasn't carrying a very large and heavy rucksack typical of the British alpinists. Before long the fist drink station came into view and suitably refreshed with a large cup of water I continued the unrelenting climb. I then met up with a runner called Trevor from the North East who had run the race on several occasions before. He gave me a few tips in exchange for a Fig Roll; the most important one being take on plenty of fluid. This I proceeded to do as we came to the next drinks station where a cold sponge was most welcome as we had now left the trees pretty much behind and were in open meadows. The climbing had more or less finished (after 1 ¾ hours!) at this point and Trevor and I settled down to a steady run which took us to a village of where we were informed by a notice board that we had achieved 45% of our total time. For me this was 2:08 which I reckoned but me down for a finish time of 4:30ish. Shortly after this I left Trevor behind as I seemed to get a second wind (or was it the Fig Roll kicking in?) From then on no one passed me as I ran along the narrow paths towards the Weisshorn Hotel. I was really enjoying myself and revelling in the wonderful views around me.

Just before the Weisshorn Hotel I was met by a bunch of supporters and told that I was the second Dark Peak runner through. They gave my spirits a lift and a drink of water which helped me on my way. After the Hotel the ground under foot starts to deteriorate (yippee!) and some serious over-taking took place as the continental runners seem hesitant in the least on the rocky ground. I spent the next hour or so constantly saying 'Pardon' and 'Merci' as I ripped past whole groups of runners.

Eventually I spotted the cable car on the other side of the valley above Zinal and I knew I was on the last lap. The path progressed on and on and it seemed an age before the final decent into the village appeared. My legs had had a couple of twinges of cramps but the walkers on the path constantly spurred me on shouting 'Hop hop hop' as I ran past them. Eventually the path down to Zinal appeared and I was able to relax a little knowing that the end was almost within reach. Where the path passed beneath clearings in the trees the air was unbearably hot and I had trouble catching my breath. Down into the village the final few hundred metres were counted down with markers on the tarmac. I tried to increase the pace but my legs threatened to buckle from cramp so I had to ease off. Sally was waiting at the finish line and realised what a state I was in as instead of the happy grin and thumbs up I displayed a grimace as I collected my finishes medal. 4:17 didn't seem to be a bad time for me, the 45% marker was more like 50% due to my descending ability being better compared with the vast majority of other runners.

ANDREW'S BIRTHDAY TRIATHLON : 7 AUGUST 1999

Dawn broke on a splendid day for Fell Running, but unfortunately there was a swim and a cycle to tackle first. There was a light drizzle and slight mist as I ventured out of my house, which had worsened considerably 1hr later, so by the time 15 hardy athletes (sorry 9, - 6 wore wet suits) assembled in the water, the far side of Ramsley Reservoir could not be seen.

The swim involved swimming a width of the reservoir, touching any foliage at any point on the far side (a first for Triathlons – route choice in the swim) before returning to the 'tow path' and exiting via the steps. The cycle was two laps of the usual 'keep taking 1st lefts' course before a 5/6 mile off road run with a challenging/b*****d (delete as appropriate dependant on whether you are a Fell Runner or Triathlete) of a hill in the middle.

Discussion points following the race were: The swim was far too long; I could have done without the cycling as my bike's very old; the run should have been two laps as I'd only just got going; the contrast in bike care at bike/run transition, between 100s of pounds of carbon fibre being laid gently against a wall compared with two bikes being thrown into a flat backed truck and finally Muttley reverting to type and attempting to sabotage attempts of a competitor to overtake his owner (photographic evidence available).

Following the double disqualification of several athletes for a) swimming in a wetsuit and b) not going to the Peacock, it is satisfying to report I won my own race.

Thanks to all those that turned up especially to John and Mandy for timekeeping.

		Swim	Bike	Run	Total
1	Rob Owen	5.00	29.20	31.00	65.20
2	Simon Austin	6.00	32.25	30.45	69.10
3	Paul Donnelly	5.05	31.50	32.25	69.20
4	Clive Bednall	5.30	32.05	35.25	73.00
5	Mick Clarkson	5.55	31.05	36.15	73.15
6	Andrew Moore	7.05	33.15	35.20	75.40
7	John Ostrowskis	6.30	40.20	33.15	80.05
8	Jo Bednall	6.50	38.00	35.45	80.35
9	Nick Hodgson	7.15	41.20	42.00	90.35
10	John Clark	8.15	40.20	42.55	91.30
11	Tom Westgate	7.45	43.45	40.25	91.55
12	Roy Small	8.20	45.30	39.15	93.05
13	Stuart Gascoigne	7.45	40.20	47.30	95.35
14	Mike Browell	9.55	39.50	50.50	100.35
15	Claire von Anrep	8.35	44.40	56.45	110.00

In Press

BOOK REVIEW

"Inside The New Map" by Kevin Borman

Inside The New Map, Kevin Borman's fourth collection of poetry, delves deep into relationships- between people and within landscapes. The landscapes in question are mostly hills and mountains. In the first section of the book, Struggling With Cartography, which begins in the Cuillin of Skye, nine poems chart the pain and confusion as a long standing relationship declines and fails.

Section two, Searching For A Compass, collects sixteen poems, reflections and elegies, times of insight and joy, travelling en route from Lincolnshire and Sussex to Pakistan and Nepal. Of one of these poems, an extended sequence which flicks between Sheffield and the Karakoram, fellow poet David Tipton has written: "No one yet has written anything as perceptive on the Britain/Pakistan issue as From Industry Street to Zarmula Dar. Included in this section are six poems written in the voices of creative artists - Long, Goldsworthy, Jarman, Burgon, Robinson, and Stainforth- who have inspired the author.

The fifteen poems in Inside The New Map, the book's final section, explore the initial fire and subsequent evolution of a new relationship. The poems here move between Scotland and Sussex, the Peak District and Spain, Kenya and Ireland. Set always in the natural world, they vividly convey moments of hope, humour, uncertainty and belief.

"This collection travels widely. Kevin Borman's poems move through the landscape describing, marvelling and at the same time completely accepting it for what it is. The language is skilfully understated and tender, particularly where details of the natural world are used to summon the detail of relationships...." Diana Syder.

"Inside The New Map" is available at the discount price of £6 to DPFR members from Kev Borman, 2 Redcar Road, Sheffield, S10 1EX

In Gear

Club Kit

"Classic" brown lightweight synthetic running vests are available in men's medium and ladies medium at £16.00. Dark peak "woolly" hats are available and in black, green, red and blue one size fits all at £7.00. Other kit (e.g. tracksters) also available. Please phone to check availability first before sending any order and money.

Richard Hakes

Shops and Discounts

The following shops usually give discounts to club members (exact amount varies with shop and product: **Keep on Running, Rock and Run, YHA shop, Blacks, Hitch and Hike, DB Sports, Feet First (Walsh resoling)**). Let Richard know if you encounter problems (like shops which no longer exist) or find any others who will give discounts.

The-bit-at-the-end

Dark Peak News Winter 1999/2000

In the Next Issue:

Mountain Marathon round up
Autumn Relays

& whatever you send in!

Articles can be submitted handwritten, typed or in electronic format on disk or via e-mail. Please use the electronic option if you can. MS Word format preferred at the moment but I can read/convert most formats.

mike@frosthole.demon.co.uk

Deadlines for submission:	Wednesday	24 November
Publication date:	Wednesday	15 December

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Cover

Pre race preparations at Grindleford - photo from Roy Marlow

Keep up to date with latest news & results via: www.frosthole.demon.co.uk/dpfr
