

Dark Peak News



Winter
2000/01

News

Double Victory at FRA Relay

"It's a poor club that can't win it's own race" goes the much (mis-)quoted Alan Yates' saying and it was a great club that rose to the challenge to win both the men's and ladies events at this year's. The key to both victories came on the epic third leg; a long navigational challenge where runners only got their maps as they departed the start. A relatively late change after permissions problems had made a long route even tougher and on the day the clag was down and Kinder soaked from a month's worth of rain in a week. The leg took the pairs from Edale to Seal Stones, Snake path, Mermaids Pool, Grindslow Knoll and back to Edale. Borrowdale and Dark Peak pulled out a large lead over their rivals to leave the last leg a two way battle. On that final leg over to Crookstone and Blackden, Andy Jenkins and Richard Patton took the lead for the first time to win by about 5 minutes.

In the women's event there was a tense wait at the finish, since all the women's teams had been in the mass start, but again the third leg had held the key as the Dark Peak pair of Jo Stephenson and Chris Howard rose from about 8th place and a 20 minute deficit to take the lead. That left Jo Smith and Lynn Bland to put in a very solid last leg to take victory.

...and the club meets it's largest ever organisational challenge

The relay was also a great organisational success despite the challenges thrown at the organisers by the weather (which made already tough courses even longer) and three visits to the finish field by the air ambulance! Organisers Dick Pasley, course planner Pete Dyke together with Roy Small and Gavin Williams who organised the 60+ helpers ensured the day went off without serious organisational hitches. Martin Stone did a superb job with the results despite the challenge of all but 6 teams having to start in the mass start and then some leg 4 runners from the mass start finishing before their leg three runners. The rescue and medical teams also did a superb job. The air ambulance helicopter brought one woman off the hill and flew one man to hospital but both injuries are not thought to be too serious (knee and ankle injuries).

Accusations of Cheating Rejected

In what seems to amount to a fit of sour grapes, there were rumours that our teams were given advanced warning of the third leg at the FRA relay. Perhaps this came because some could not believe that both DPFR mens and womens teams recorded fastest times on leg 3 ahead of more fancied pairs. However, one of our 3rd leg runners, Alan Ward, has firmly denied the accusation. Both our mens pair live near to and train on Kinder whilst the women's team included one of the UK's top orienteers. Whilst no official complaint was received, further controversy arose concerning the first claim status of one of our women's team for both the FRA and Ian Hodgson relays. However, it is understood that the person concerned has confirmed that she is a 1st claim member of Dark Peak.

Calderdale: Women win by 1 second...

In the 50 mile Calderdale Way Relay, Dark Peak's women's team came home victorious by 1 second after 7.5 hours of running! The team had been trailing a much improved Bingley Ladies for all the race; 11 minutes down at one stage. In the last 10 mile leg both teams were in the mass start with Chris Howard and Hannah Wooton coming home about 8 minutes in front of Bingley. But it was another 45 minutes before the official result was announced.

Elsewhere there was mixed success. On paper the men's team looked one of our strongest ever with high hopes of a top 3 place. However, yet again they failed to get off to a good start and trailed in 17th after those first 10 miles. There was another small set back on 3rd leg where Phil Winskill had a bad fall and another minute or two was lost. After that some strong running in the second half of the race, including fastest time on last leg by Marcus Scotney and Mike Jubb moved us up to finish 6th, just 4 minutes away from 3rd place.

The veterans team had their best ever placing, 16th overall and 3rd vets team; like the A team, they just missed the prizes by 4 minutes. Everyone on the team ran well, getting up to 14th and 2nd vet at one stage and always in contention for that 2nd veterans place. Finally, the B team as usual suffered from the effects of rearranging the A team plus some dodgy navigation which lost 5 minutes on 3rd leg. They provisionally finished 38th.

Full report in the next newsletter once the politics and red tape is resolved -see below.

...but face possible disqualification

It came as a big shock to receive a letter by the FRA some 3 weeks after the event threatening disqualification for our victorious ladies team. It seems someone (Bingley Ladies?) complained to the FRA about the women running a second claim runner in the team. However, the team had only been selected after Mike Pedley had contacted the race organiser and then double checked with the chairman of the organising club two weeks before the event to check upon the rules for the race. They stated that 2nd claim runners could compete if their first claim club wasn't taking part. Indeed, the possible disqualification seems also to have come as a surprise to the organising club, Halifax Harriers, since it is understood that at the time of writing no complaint to them had been made either by other teams in the race or the FRA!

At the time of going to press the matter has not yet been resolved despite a letter of explanation from our club secretary. It looks likely to be considered by the FRA disciplinary committee later in January.

Storming through the storms at the Karrimor!

There were a string of Dark Peak successes at this year's Karrimor including two overall and two class victories. In the elite four DPFR pairs made the top 25. Stars were Al Ward and Simon Bourne who claimed third spot. Also running well in the elite were Rick and Simon Patton (20th), Rick Ansell and Will Sullivan (22nd), Marcus Scotney and Geoff Pettingall (24th). Oli Johnson won the A; Mike Wynne and Richard Hopkinson were 18th and 2nd veteran pair. In the B Dave Peel and Ruth Hambleton took the victory with Ant Mayer 17th and in the C new member Phil Winskill was 4th; Helen Hargreaves and Jo Stevenson the first female pair in 5th place overall.

This year there were three score events: long, medium and short. Jo Smith and Mike Browell were 27th overall and 1st mixed pair in the long score. In the medium Bill Hanley and Guy Seaman came 26th just beating Roy Small and Hugh Cotton. No Dark Peakers appear to have been in the short score which is just as well as NO teams made it inside the time allowed, not even those that ran almost straight from start to finish. Over half the field finished with no points at all with the last place mounting up a staggering net score of MINUS 695!

Trogging successes

There were strong DPFR performances in Tanky's Trog with five of the top 8 coming from Dark Peak. The first two places eluded the club but Alan Ward wasn't far behind in 3rd with Rob Davison 4th. Early on Tim Tett and Mick Robinson had also been looking strong but Tim pulled out at Crowden and Mick slowed over the final crossing. Mick still finished 8th but was pipped into Edale by Rick Ansell and Bob Toogood. Rick, finishing as top veteran and 6th overall.

Strong showing at Ian Hodgson Relay

Both the men's and women's teams produced a strong showing at the Ian Hodgson relay living up to our reputation of recent years as a "top 5" club. The women's team of Lynn Bland + Jan Cave, Alison Shepherd + Jo Stevenson, Jo Smith + Chris Howard, Hannah Wooton + Ruth Hambleton finished second behind Ilkley, just winning out in an exciting battle with Kendal for that second spot. In the men's race Borrowdale performed their usual domination over the most mountainous of the three Autumn relays. The Dark Peak team of Mark Hayman + Alan Ward, Dickie Wren + Andy Jenkins, Mike Nolan + Steve Bell, Rob Davidson + Gavin Williams came a creditable 5th in 3:59:40 and won a bottles of specially labelled beer.

Polaris Victory

Mike and Chris Browell scooped the "Parent and Offspring" at this Autumn's 'Polaris'. The event is the mountain biking equivalent of the Karrimor, a 2 day navigation event with overnight camp. This year's event was staged on a "horrible, wet and muddy" Exmoor - obviously ideal conditions for seasoned Peak District bog-trotter!

Coming Events

WINTER-SPRING 2001

Club runs every Wednesday from the Sportsman, Lodge Moor, Sheffield at 6:30pm or at an "away" venue (start times vary – CHECK BELOW). Runs are normally 1.5 hours on paths and moors with shorter options often available. Abilities vary and there are usually a couple of regroupings during the run.

"Local races" are open events usually entry on the day with an entry fee (£2 ish) and a few prizes. "DPFR races" are informal events for Dark Peak club members, usually with no entry fee and no prizes.

Jan

Wed	17	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	
Sun	2	10:30	DPFR race	Burbage Nuts race. Porter Clough car park, Ringinglow. Details from Dick Pasley.	
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Wed	24	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	
Wed	24	19:00	DPFR race	Warts Night race; venue to be decided; meet Sportsman: 18:30	
Wed	31	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	
Wed	31	18:45	Warts run	Kings Tree, 168 939	

Feb

Sat	3	09:30	DPFR race	Marjory Hill. Fairholmes car park	
Sun	4	11:00	Local race	Mickleden Straddle. Langsett Barn car park (A616). Entries £3.50 by 28/1 to: A. Corn, 122 Pilling lane, Scisset, Huddersfield, HD8 9LP	12.5ml/ 1900'
Wed	7	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	
Sun	11	11:00	Local Race	Tigger Tor. Tigers Rugby Club, Dore Moor	9.5ml/ 1700'
Wed	14	18:30	Club run	Barrell Inn, near Eyam (to be confirmed) - a roadies away day	
Wed	14	18:45	Warts run	Barrell Inn, near Eyam (to be confirmed)	
Wed	21	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	
Wed	28	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	
Wed	28	18:45	Warts run	Hathersage Car Park, 233815	

Mar

	2	22:00	Local race	Derwent Watershed. Edale. Entries £64 per team of 4 by 31/1 on special entry form to: T. Fairbrother, High Peak Club, The Workspace, Sheffield University Students Union, Western Bank, Sheffield, S10 2TG	42ml/ 5400'
Sun	4	09:30	Local race	New Chew. Dovestone Sailing Club, Greenfield. Entries (by 24/2) & details: M. Hodgson, Stone Field, Waters Lane, Marsden Huddersfield.	
Wed	7	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	
Wed	14	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	

Club Championships

Club Championships and Handicap: 18 November 2000

The club championships proved a great success despite the wind, rain and even snow on the tops. Al Ward led throughout, only to be "worselled" by Mark Hayman taking a very direct line on the final 50m of descent. Even then Al thought he had a chance; he cut the corner to the finish car by wading the Longendale river... unfortunately he had his sights set on the wrong Ford Focus(!) and Mark Hayman ran in to win.

A very strong run by Jenny James netted her the women's prize well ahead of her nearest rival. Meanwhile in the other categories Hilary Musson marked her 40th birthday with the women's veteran's trophy, Andy Harmer claimed the men's over 50 trophy and Darryll Bradbury won the handicap.

The race started from the now abandoned Woodhead Station on the Longendale Trail at grid ref. 113999. The Andy Harmer/Chris Barber planned course featured just two checkpoints at 135952 (sheepfold) and 117940 (falls). 13km with 600m climb.

POS	NAME	TIME	H'CAP (mins)	H'CAP TIME	H'CAP POS.
1	Mark Hayman	1-32-33	0	1-32-33	13
2	Alan Ward	1-32-47	1	1-31-47	10
3	Tim Tett [1 st M40]	1-34-14	5	1-29-14	7
4	Mick Robinson	1-35-10	8	1-27-10	5
5	Andy Jenkins	1-35-11	3	1-32-11	11
6	Al Sealey	1-37-28	11	1-26-28	4
7	Rob Davison	1-41-18	9	1-32-18	12
8	Bob Berzins	1-41-23	14	1-27-23	6
9	Dave Soles	1-42-25	16	1-26-25	3
10	Andy Harmer [1 st M50]	1-44-43	11	1-33-43	17
11	Chris Ledger	1-44-47	N/A	1-44-47	30
12	Dave Lockwood	1-53-20	17	1-36-20	19
13	Tom Westgate	1-57-54	28	1-29-54	8
14	Paul Sanderson	2-01-06	22	1-39-06	23
15	Chas Hird	2-02-59	20	1-42-59	26
16	Jenny James [1 st F]	2-03-06	30	1-33-06	14
17	Darrel Bradbury [1 st h'cap]	2-03-29	46	1-17-29	1
18	Phil Cox	2-06-22	21	1-45-22	31
19	Bob Marsden	2-06-27	47	1-19-27	2
20	Dave Tait	2-08-44	7	2-01-44	45
21	Graham Bell	2-15-40	N/A	2-15-40	48
22	Dave Holmes	2-17-02	41	1-36-02	18
23	Roy Small	2-17-15	33	1-44-15	27

24	Richard Hakes	2-17-36	19	1-58-36	42
25	Lynn Bland	2-18-10	40	1-38-01	21
26	Jo Stevenson	2-18-32	34	1-44-32	29
27	Ken Jones	2-20-15	24	1-56-15	38
28	Clive Last	2-22-30	49	1-33-30	16
29	Maurice Musson	2-21-51	51	1-30-51	9
30	Chris Barber	2-21-52	27	1-54-51	37
31	Dave Markham	2-21-53	35	1-46-53	34
32	Dick Pasley	2-27-14	54	1-33-14	15
33	Hugh Cotton	2-27-32	43	1-44-32	28
34	Martin Fox	2-27-52	30	1-57-52	39
35	Richard Horsfield	2-28-33	25	2-03-33	46
36	Andy Malkin	2-30-20	38	1-52-20	36
37	John Armistead	2-31-37	31	2-00-37	43
38	Colin Henson	2-34-35	54	1-40-35	24
39	Stuart Oglethorpe	2-36-18	18	2-18-18	50
40	Mike Browell	2-36-30	N/A	2-36-30	52
41	Jim Fulton	2-36-40	50	1-46-40	33
42	Jim Orrell	2-36-50	60	1-36-50	20
43	John Woodcock	2-37-00	36	2-01-00	44
44	Kev Saville	2-37-30	39	1-58-30	41
45	Hilary Musson [1 st F40]	2-38-00	59	1-39-00	22
46	Jeff Harrison	2-38-50	57	1-41-50	25
47	Graham Berry	2-39-07	29	2-10-07	47
48	Jan Cave	2-40-49	55	1-45-49	32
49	Barry Needle	2-43-30	53	1-50-30	35
50	John Gunnee	2-46-04	48	1-58-04	40
51	Jo Smith	3-01-03	N/A	3-01-03	54
52	Ant Mayer & Dog	3-03-12	N/A	3-03-12	55
53	Pete Gorrvt	3-03-50	13	2-50-50	53
54	Pete Sweet-Escott	3-08-40	N/A	3-08-40	56
55	John Herbert	3-08-41	45	2-23-41	51
56	Roger Baumeister	3-12-50	56	2-16-50	49
57	Roger Slater	3-35-30	N/A	3-35-30	57

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Club Dinner : 18 November 2000

At the club dinner in the evening more trophies were awarded including the Local Race League trophies which went to Andy Jenkins and Lynn Bland. The highlight of the evening's trophies, the Pertex, went to Jim Fulton for proclaiming his navigational abilities and then leading his family astray on the Wasdale fells in front of 8m TV viewers. Finally the chairman's challenge was won by Rob Davison's "elephant back" portable liquidiser in a close vote against Roy Small's "carrot and stick"!

The physical manifestation of the Pertex Award has been skilfully remodelled from a Queens Award for Industry, found by Hamish Hamilton on moving into the hastily vacated premises of a previously very successful firm who went bankrupt. There must be a moral here... Scientists amongst you will realise that the trophy is not Pertex, but perspex. But we can forgive another spelling error.

The Queens Award to Industry has been cleverly fitted with a clock that works backwards. Well, it used to. Now it's permanently stopped. And the whole ensemble is fitted with devilish cunning into a beautifully decorated timber carrying case in club colours.

Now, tradition has it that it remains the prerogative of the current incumbent to unilaterally assess fellow members for a full twelvemonth, and to finally make the award at the annual dinner. Sometimes the pertexable event doesn't occur until the very last minute, such as incompetence at the Club Champs on the morning of the final day. And sometimes the recipient is fingered at a very early stage. Look around at the guilt-ridden faces of the club as they await the award ceremony. How many are hastily preparing their acceptance speech....?

Its true to say that as the Pertex Award ceremony begins, many club members feel their hearts slipping into their Walshes, desperately hoping that their peccadilloes went un-noticed... That is unlikely. It's about as unlikely as me winning a race. Very.

Because tales of incompetence are willingly offered up to the current holder from all corners of the club. Its amazing how freely this information is forthcoming, usually corroborated within hours by several sources.

However, it is true to say that I started my Pertex year with great doubts. Doubts that anyone would commit an incompetent act. In fact, it seemed to me that the competence of the club was at an all-time high. Not a step out of line was noticed. I began to think that the Pertex had served its time and purpose, it had raised club competence to an ethereal plain of sublime perfection.

Perhaps my mantelpiece would become the permanent resting place for the unwanted Pertex. I rather liked that idea. After all, I wasn't going to be winning any races... These thought nagged at me for a couple of days. But I needn't have worried. DPFRR wasn't going to disappoint me.

At this stage in the award ceremony, some people will be getting worried. I hope that you all remember that my misdeed was to straighten out the illogically contrived line (read:- miss a checkpoint) while sweeping the Edale Skyline, and deliver myself, like a rabbit to the slaughter, into the hands of the current Pertex holder, Maurice Musson, at the final control. "Come to me bunnykins" I think he said. So, imagine my joy when this years sweepers went astray, avoiding the race route by going over Back Tor. But Roy Small was very guarded with the identity of the sweepers, so they escape.

Predictably, one of the club habitual offenders went AWOL whilst leading on the summer Crookstone Crashout and eventually appeared out of the mist when everyone was in the pub. But for Phil Crowson this is too typical and he's got immunity.

Then the Saunders MM. Well, who would have guessed it? A prominent ladies team doing the Kirkfell class indulged in consensus navigation by committee, and managed to arrive at a Bowfell control, several miles away from the control they were looking for. I wondered long and hard about the correctness of handing the Pertex back to the Musson mantelpiece so soon. But Hilary and Jan Cave are to be spared... for now.

Now we all know how tricky Kinder can be, and never more so on a wild and wet summer evening. Our Millennium Man set off on the crossing from Edale to Alport, but never made it. Much much later a DPFR car was driving home from the pub after 10:00pm, and found Millennium Man trudging along the road, some four hours since he'd set off. He was reunited with his patient partner and hound, who had been waiting for many hours. Ted came very close to having a new mantelpiece decoration, but Bev said that she'd already 'clocked' him.

The Bens of Jura is traditionally a multi-mode journey, involving cycling. In Jim Bells case that's all it involved. He spent many days on the journey from Sheffield to Jura, and got close to the start; very close, but failed to navigate the last mile and ended up in hospital with concussion.

The Lakes Mountain Trial can usually be allowed to expose lapses of concentration. Chris Barber had a bit of a mishap on the Lakes trial, losing his e-tag early on and paying a high price before the lost tag was returned.

It's a very complicated race, with a choice of long, short or open classes. But entering the long course but running the short course by mistakenly picking up the wrong map – now that does sound incompetent doesn't it? But Gavin Williams did at least win the short course, all a dreadful mistake, and a big disappointment to the chaps who came second. I think he's wriggled off the hook for this year.

Compass Spice has a fine reputation as an orienteer. That's one of those clever navigators who use a map and compass to get from one place to another. The journey from Ringing Roger to Grindslow Knoll is a good 20 minutes, but a lot longer, a good two hours if you take in Kinder Low and the Downfall by mistake!!! In any normal year, this would have been a serious challenge.

Luckily, this years worthy recipient played with such a straight bat that there could really be no doubt about their incompetence.

We have the evidence. We have the witnesses. We even have a candid confession. And it involved a classic pertexable error – duff navigation. Spectacularly duff. Actually so spectacularly duff that allegedly 6.5 million television viewers shared the

Jim replies:

On behalf of the Red Team, Thankyou Mike. "The Horns" pale into insignificance compared with what now sits on our Mantelpiece!

Jim, Sue, Jo & Luke (and James who must be really fed up with hearing about our 50 minutes of fame and now has to sit at that chuffin' thing for the next 12 months) Fulton.

NB - Notification of potential contenders for 2001 are already being received. Please contact Jim or e-mail him at pertex@dpfr.co.uk. In addition, other e-mail addresses (courtesy of Sheffield's finest electrical contractors - J.Fulton & Son) that work are:

chairman@dpfr.co.uk - Dave
kit@dpfr.co.uk - Richard
warts@dpfr.co.uk - Andy
anorak@dpfr.co.uk - Paul

secretary@dpfr.co.uk - Bob
tosser@dpfr.co.uk - Moz
clubhut@dpfr.co.uk - Roy
editor@dpfr.co.uk - Mike

Features

Where and when?



More details in the next edition!

Going the Distance

Loxley International Mountain Marathon 2000

The Second Coming

Internationals were definitely present at registration! But surprisingly absent at the overnight camp, held at a secret venue which proved to be far from secret. The Sportsman!

This years theme song – “Pink and orange and purple and missing, yellow and missing and green. I can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow, but bits of it are proving hard to find....” This was truly a race of all colours: purple like Rob’s face after the sprint, white like Polly’s after the Stannington Ruffs caper.

Richard (THE GREEN MAN) Hakes set the first days score event. His map references were truly creative, always within the correct grid square, and usually within walking distance of the control feature: meaning that there was no need to take a bus. Clearly a man who studied at the Roy Small School of Precision Mapping. Richards super green biodegradable idea for this year was a huge improvement on the very elusive smears of radio-active coloured vaseline which proved so popular last year (some are still there – their half life is rumoured to be 99 years) This year there were jolly little painted sticks, and very nice colours – when you could find them.

Always scrupulously fair, and happy to take constructive criticism, Richard willingly corrected the location of two of the controls, both wall corners, when it was pointed out that one was in the middle of the golf course, and the other was a few hundred feet adrift. Vertically and horizontally. It soon became clear that these were not to be the only challenging controls. The Wyming Brook Drive control had slipped down to the lower track and a parallel feature of gate posts hidden in a forest near Stanage had many flummoxed.

Complaints were like water off a Hakes broad back. A quick smile, a shrug, and all protests were fully conceded, extra points generously given to anyone; no argy-bargy.

Andy Harmer crosses only
with Richard GREEN
MAN Hakes



Rob Davidson and Gavin Williams were the only ones who cleared all the Day One controls, but after a few beers and the Pub Quiz, things at the sharp end were very close. Gavin had retired and Rob's one point lead was precarious: Andy Harner, Tom Westgate and surprise Dark (Peak) Horse Mike Browell (shurely shome mishtake?) were up there with him. Creative accounting?

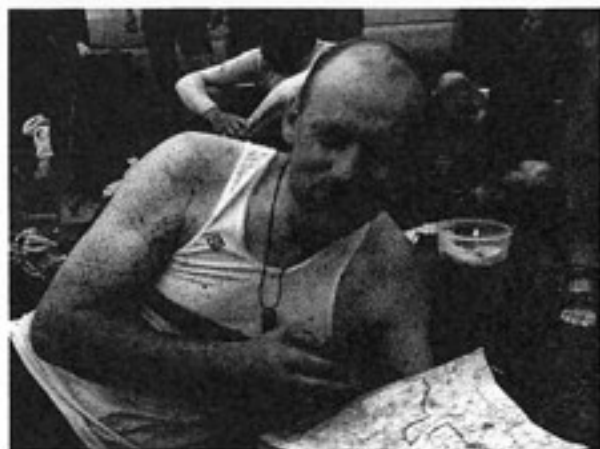
Richard kindly showing Christopher where the Needle might be

The Sunday morning 8:00 am Sprint was a real eye-opener! No-one anticipated the result, except possibly Christopher Browell (aged 15). It was kindly suggested that Chris, not having any idea where Rivelin Needle was, might just run down to the dam wall. To the naïve, this might have seemed an admirable idea. But with Rob Davidson generously calling lefts and rights from behind, the apprentice led the race, beating Rob into second place, and astonished everyone. No-one more so than himself when he won a bottle of Scotch for his efforts. (NOTE for generous sponsor John Gunnee – better get Coca Cola for next year...)

A memorable quote from the weekend:-Advice from wise man Alan Yates to Rob Davidson after the Sprint: "Now you know how we feel!"



Then the final event, The Return of the Native to Loxley School via the (devilishly fiendish my dear Holmes) Blue Route. This took in some seriously esoteric water features. Some were prickly and unpleasant. Some were wet and unpleasant. Some were potentially dangerous and unpleasant.



A scarred (and scared?)
Tom Westgate
Remember, these people
are professionals – don't
try this at home!

The waterfall control below Stannington Ruffs sorted the sane from the loonies. Tom Westgate and Andy Harmer failed to read the organisers severe health warning "!!!! DO NOT ATTEMPT to reach this control from above! Parachutes advised" They soloed down what might have been 'Mermans Meander' a rarely attempted and ungradeable rock climb, to reach the waterfall foot, on a tottering pile of choss known as Stannington Ruffs, the most evil crap crag for miles. Ungradeable due to its ever changing loose and slimy rock! Luckily Tom has a charmed life in his day job as a safety conscious aerial access specialist. Mick Poulter had to look away...

When all the shouting had died down, Rob Davidson emerged (where had he and Compass Spice been for the last half hour?) to thunderous applause and a clear win, but with Andy and Tom snapping at his heels. Everyone got at least one prize, and an extremely posh tee-shirt!



Survivors of the LIMM 2000

Thanks to all the Loxley organising team, and to Hawleys Tyres & Exhausts for being there throughout. Not your average shy and retiring sponsors, these chaps!

Mike Browell

Ed. Anyone got any results?!

Cracken Edge : 9 August 2000

7ml/1450'

Cool conditions and bit wet for those at the rear. During the post race discussions between some of the Dark Peak contingent it was felt that this good race could be improved by running it in the reverse direction.

					Ant Mayer
1	M. Fowler (Salford)	42.16	60	Jo Stevenson	3rd F 53.48
36	A. Moore	50.17	62	T. Westgate	53.31
37	R. Marlow 2nd V50	50.18	86	C. Edwards	56.18
45	A. Mayer	51.25	136	M. Edwards	64.04

153 Finished

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Eccles Pike : 23 August 2000

3.5ml/650'

Word seems to have got out about this cracking little race. A much larger field toed the line this year with some quality runners amongst them-Steve Penny who has an enviable record of wins recently came in 4th! Just over a minute behind the winner!

1	M. Fowler (Salford)	20.44	94	P. Tapping	31.38
22	D. Soles	24.07	100	C. Henson	32.22
36	A. Mayer	25.49	106	G. Goldsmith	35.20
53	C. Edwards	27.41			

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Eyam Fell Race : 29 August 2000

A smaller than usual field after confusion over the start time and some runners turning up 3 hours early!

1	M.Fowler	39:38	41	J.Armistead	49:00
5	I.Smith	41:53	43	K.Jones	50:05
12	K.Holmes	45:03	45	R.Small	50:20
14	C.Adams	45:13	51	J.Smith (1 st Lady)	52:09
16	R.Hutton	45:42	65	R.Slater	55:02
17	D.Tait (1 st V50)	46:01	73	J.Fulton	56:00
18	A.Bell	46:13	77	D.Pelly	56:42
20	A.Moore	46:50	86	P.Tapping	59:33
21	R.Marlow	46:56	103	M.Small	1:10:31
23	A.Barnett	47:09			
26	M.Smith	47:34		107 ran.	
27	C.Barber	47:51			

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Dungworth Amateur International Gala Celebrity Championship Fell Race October 7, 2000

A sentimental note is once again in order. It was pleasing to see the up-and-coming generation now figuring prominently in the annual ritual. Chris Browell obviously has the makings of a future champion, while the debuts of the Harmer, Yates and Holmes scions (with the Hakes boys and the Gunnee girls already appearing in the wings) augur well for continuity of the Dungworth traditions. Tom Holmes, in fact, took the replica of Hiro's fan for a triple visit to Bramalls' farm, thus overshadowing Chris Manthorpe's suicidal plunge down the bank of Ughill Brook and Ken Payne's bemused enactment of the Edwards' Alternative finish. Richard Hakes's plaintive enquiry ('Which way do we go?'), made while the field was under starter's orders, presaged confusion and dispute over the eventual outcome.

Former champion Paul Deaville seems to have run to metronome and in blinkers, as he contumaciously took the 'old' (formerly the 'new') route through the fields up to Wood Side Farm. By NEAAA and IOC rules the race should have gone to another former champion, old stager Bob Toogood, who scrupulously and most efficiently ran the route as flagged. But then, what about the claims and appeal of Chris Manthorpe? This other former winner, having followed Paul on the 'old' route, then got back on course. He might have given the latter a good run for his money, except that his wavering between the 'old' (i.e. new) and the 'new' (i.e. old) variants must have distracted or disconcerted him enough to induce the aberration mentioned above.

Urgent high-level negotiations in The Royal Hotel, involving the affected parties and the highest echelons of Knott Fell Runners (whose Club Championship is also integrated into the Dungworth event), produced a diplomatic solution that evidently met with universal acclaim. Re-running the race having been quickly eliminated as an option, a judgement of Solomon prevailed: to reverse the finishing order (with Tom Holmes out of the reckoning on account of his undisputed claims on Hiro's fan). Thus Peter Dyke deservedly took the Granville Harper Trophy for 2000. The Moosehead went to Paul Deaville, for a variety of now rather obscured reasons.

The 'last shall be first' precedent was invoked in order for the grotesque neo-fascist Brugarolas cup (awarded to the winner of the whole Loxley Valley Rough-Running Series) to be given to John Gunnee instead of to Richard Hakes.

There was an excellent turn-out, despite the counter-attraction of the Langdale race and despite the unusual absence of the Penistone contingent. And despite the vile weather which produced very slack underfoot conditions and which made the slop around Bramall's Bend virtually impassable. Dr Dave Moseley was unfortunately kept away, so he kindly supplied a barrel of apples. The Royal Hotel once again provided warm post-race hospitality.

The £1-per-head proceeds from the registration collection pot (£41.84 plus one East Caribbean dollar) were converted into gift-vouchers for the three farmers with whose kind cooperation the unique tennis-raquet-shape course is configured. Thanks also go

Saddleworth Trail Saturday 7 October 2000

10 ml/1200'

A good fast race on a poor wet day covering some pleasant moorland and trails around Dingle nr Marsden

Ant Mayer

1 M. Fowler (Salford)	1:02.38
18 R. Hutton	1:11.59
29 R. Marlow	1:16.46
30 N. Boler	1:17.08

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Penmaenmawr : 18 November 2000

Members of another club with Totleley in their title had raved about the delights of running the Penmaenmawr (P) race for some time, so I thought I had better experience it for myself. A call to Rob Hutton secured transport and the accompaniment of fellow Dark Peaker, Neville Boler. The Saturday dawned and I arrived At Rob's at the unearthly time of 7.30a.m. We set off across the Snake commenting on how handsome Kinder looked with a covering of snow. Pity it was soon to turn to that less photogenic form of precipitation which was to turn the Club Champs into such a boggy morass later in the day. Still we were off to Wales, and therefore, were resigned to a similar fate. We arrived at P with frightening ease, and lo and behold it was dry; well there was probably moisture in the air but it wasn't making itself too evident. We set off for a warm up and a brief inspection of the first climb, which Rob and Neville assured me was the only climb of any note throughout the forthcoming proceedings.

The start is along a flat strip of road, that made me think it must be a flattish course, and this view was confirmed by one individual, who insisted on prancing down the strip as if he was going to do a 10k. This somewhat disturbed me and my anxieties were raised further by the Lady Mayor and Mayoress (who were very reminiscent of the sisters out of Gormenghast , only not quite so amusing) being told off by the pedantic organiser for tinkling instead of ringing the start bell. After a false start or two, we were off down the road at a pace, a lot faster than could be termed comfortable. We then turned up the hillside at a pace, which could be described as a lot slower than normal and very uncomfortable. Climbing up through fields, the winter sun struck us right in the eyes, causing momentary blindness and questioning whether Dark Peak should introduce a sun visor (in club colours of course) into kit.

Running miles 2-8 was very enjoyable and was more cross-country than fell. As soon as the route headed for what appeared to be a hill it sidestepped it at the last moment heading for a checkpoint somewhere on the shoulder. Progression along a road section at one point was almost halted by the strong headwind and forced me to apply a cag. The last couple of miles of this race are a sheer delight, as they involve descending on a grassy snaking path overlooking the sea. This experience was intensified by having

Relays

FRA Relays A Personal Perspective (Royston S.)

What a day it turned out to be. Two wins for the club and some very tired people at the end of it all. The weather that caused so many problems leading up to the weekend relented for the day and where it mattered it was a balmy sunny day. Up on the tops it was just right (perfect club champs stuff). However, the standard of competitors was appallingly low towards the back end with a mixture of blind incompetence and basic lack of competitive running. Some of the slower teams contained people who looked like they had completed no fell races before ever. The affect of this was to make life very confusing down at the changeover.

Almost unbelievably we had to set off the last teams second leg about ten minutes before their first leg runner arrived. Things only got worse as the day went on. On the second leg we did at least get all the runners back before leg three finishers arrived, but the long wait caused a lot of trouble due to the report of an injured leg two runner up on the plateau. The MR could not find him and we did not know the team number. When the last team turned up we identified the injured man as a Clayton runner who finished his leg in fine style so was not left out on the hill (I use the term "leg" in both senses here).

Leg 3 sorted the men from the boys as they say. It was long and gave route choice, but a look at the finishing times shows that it was not overlong compared to the guidelines. The underfoot conditions were very bad and might be expected to lead to slower times as was proved. For a lot of teams the problem was choosing weak runners for the shorter legs and hence starting later.

Another factor is the misinterpretation of the phrase "estimated winning time". This means that the planner thinks only one team can achieve this i.e. nobody else (Altrincham vets stood no chance of getting anywhere near that time even in midsummer). One team doing leg 3 in reverse also led to anxiety in Edale. They were met by the sweep at Ashop Clough and sent back directly but argued the toss even then. They apparently went wrong near the start. (How many more marshals and flags do they want on a navigation leg?)

By all accounts the fourth leg was a great race, both at the front and also in the mass start. They all got back long before the stragglers on leg 3.

Good news! Edale is now no longer a black hole for mobile phones. There was one place on the field where I could get a Cellnet signal good enough to talk to the team at Mermaids Pool and Grindslow Knoll. Fortunately the messing about with Helicopters did not stop any important part of the proceedings, personally I think it was more to do with training requirements than nessecity. We will have to wait and see what shade of publicity, if any, we get.

	LEG 1 Time	LEG 2 Time	Race Pos	LEG 3 Time	Race Pos	LEG 4 Name/ Time	To/Time
Poun, Team & cat.	Legs&Race Pos	Leg Pos	Gain	Name/2 Leg Pos	Gain	Name/2 Leg Pos	Gain
1 Dark Peak 1 st OPEN	Miko Jubb 45.46	Marcus Scitney 48.54	4	Mark Hayman 115.01	2	Andy Jenkins 91.52	05.01.33
2 Borrowdale 2 nd OPEN	8th Mark Roberts 44.08	1st Jonny Bland 49.28	+4	Alan Ward 1st Clavin Bland 115.36	+2	Richard Patten 3rd 97.02	+1 05.06.14
3 Clayton A 3 rd OPEN	3rd Simon Timpson 44.13	3rd Garry Wilkinson 50.32	0	Andrew Schofield 2nd Mike Wallis 124.15	+2	Steve Hicks 14th 96.50	-1 05.15.50
7 Kendal A - Vets 1 st VETS	5th Billy Proctor 47.17	6th Duncan Overton 52.46	0	Andy Black 3rd Phil Clarke 141.44	+2	Ian Greenwood 12th 97.27	0 05.39.14
11 Eryl Vets 2 nd VETS	14th Dafydd W'neside 53.04	11th Emlyn Roberts 52.46	+6	Mike Walsh 10th Russell Owen 146.20	+1	Dave Houlsworth 17th 97.04	0 05.49.14
14 Cumberland Vets 3 rd VETS	36th Andy Bealy 48.01	12th Pete Skelton 50.14	+18	Steve Barnard 16th Michael Litt 162.07	+3	Gwynfor Owen 15th 96.51	+4 05.57.13
22 Dark Peak Vets V (5 th vets)	19th Dave Allen 47.57	5th Mark Skelld 57.55	+13	Robert James 30th Rob Hutton 167.24	-12	Willie Bell 13th 95.46	+4 06.09.02
44 D Peak Ladies 1 st LADIES	18th Jacky Smith 58.38	26th Alison Shephard 77.11	-1	Keith Tonkin 38th Chris Howard 161.02	-9	Bob Toogood 9th 118.46	+6 06.55.37
49 Pennine Ladies 2 nd LADIES	63rd Jane Mellor 59.04	73rd Naomi Higson 66.11	-8	Jo Stephenson 27th Alison Brentnall 179.57	+24	Lynn Bland 47th Mary Edgerton 119.59	+3 07.05.11
52 Mac/Id Ladies 3 rd LADIES	66th Sarah Jones 53.29	52nd Cecilia Cressley 64.49	+8	Helen Hargreaves 47th Vicky Thornton 188.40	+3	Sally Gilliver 56th Barbara Murray 127.01	+6 07.13.59
	40th	46th	-2	Becky Hilton 38th	-14	Sally Ann Hales 59th	+4

Great support from 60 Dark Peak members and friends made this possible. Some people were left up on the hill with little to do for over 6 hours not knowing what was going on, we can guess what that must feel like. Others did a 101 crap jobs down in Edale but never hesitated once. One common sentiment expressed was the lack of an overall picture of what was happening. I could have done a bit better with briefing notes but as it turned out there were many events that were not anticipated well enough. Communications are improving all the time so things will get better next time!

The villagers were great this year (except the prat in the car at the start who would not wait), due in no small measure to Dick's painstaking efforts.

Roy Small



The first of three landings by the air ambulance on the finish field gave the marshals some extra headaches as they had to clear all the spectators to a safe distance. Fortunately the main air traffic activity was during the long 3rd leg.

Fell Off

Paris-Brest-Paris Cycle

At the risk of being accused of trying to turn Dark Peak into a cycling club...

Dark Peak were represented at this year's Paris-Brest-Paris. The PBP is classic bike ride of over 1200 kilometres which was originally one of the most important races in the professional calendar. Now it is an Audax event which is held every four years and it is the ambition of every long distance cyclist to complete it.

Although it is not a race, you only have a maximum of 90 hours to ride from Paris to Brest and back again. This year's edition attracted an amazing 3700 riders and was an incredible experience with strong local support throughout the whole trip at all hours of the day and night. I pleased to report that Gerry Goldsmith, Geoff Bell and Maggie and I on our tandem were all successful in finishing within the time limit.

Pete Lewis

In Gear

The Club Kit, November 2000.

Vests

There are now plenty of vests available in most sizes, cotton vests are £12.00 and synthetic vests are £16.00.

Woolly Hats

Still the same as the last few years, one size fits all and available in black, green, red and blue £7.00.

Tracksters "dark peak"

New purple tracksters are now available, sizes are small, medium, large and extra large, there are a couple of green pairs but only large £18.00, am considering re-ordering these any suggestions on colour?

Shorts "dark peak"

I now have "dark peak" green cycling type shorts in both medium and large at a new (improved price) of £14.00.

Fleece Tops

Fleece tops are now available in a variety of colours and sizes they are a sweatshirt type top at £15.00 and a zipped jacket £ 20.00 both with the "dark peak" sewn badge on them, please check with me to find one to suite.

Polo Shirts

I am trying a new item, polo shirts, both long or short sleeved, I am placing a small order and I do not know the price yet, if you are interested or see one please ask!

For all the club kit please see me at a club night or at a race, I usually take a few things with me, otherwise please ring me to check. I can post out most things at about 50p per item (the fleece tops will be more).

Richard Hakes, 0114 233 9912.

Shops and Discounts

The following shops usually give discounts to club members (exact amount varies with shop and product. Let Richard know if you encounter problems (like shops which no longer exist!) or find any others who will give discounts.

Keep on Running, Rock and Run, YHA shop, Blacks, Hitch and Hike, DB Sports, Feet first (Walsh resoling).

The-bit-at-the-end

Dark Peak News - Spring 2001

In the Next Issue:

Lots of stuff which there wasn't room for in this issue.
 Calderdale Way Relay,
 Local race League 2000, DPFR Champs League 2000
 Karrimor - through the eye of the Tiger!
 An Edale Skyline alternative ...and all the usual reports and results

If you run a race, a copy of the results and 1 paragraph to go with it can make a huge difference to the readability of the newsletter!

Articles can be submitted handwritten, typed or in electronic format on disk or via e-mail. Please use the electronic option if you can - a diskette or via e-mail to:

mike@frosthole.demon.co.uk or editor@dpfr.co.uk

MS Word format preferred at the moment but I can read/convert most formats. Despite the years of practice it still takes me a good 15 minutes to type a side of A4 - and that's without all the formatting!

Deadlines for submission:	Wednesday	1 March 2001
Publication date:	Wednesday	22 March 2001

Thanks

Thanks for D.P.News Winter 2000/01 to; Bob Berzins, Mike Browell, Jim Fulton, John Gunnee, Richard Hakes, Dave Holmes, Richard Hopkinson, Andy Jenkins, Pete Lewis, Ant Mayer, Dick Pasley, Paul Sanderson, Mark Salkild, Dave Tait, Alan Ward and probably one or two more I've missed!

Newsletter Publishing Delay

For a variety of reasons which your editor could list but won't, the newsletter missed it's pre Christmas deadline to get to the printers. Apologies to all those who missed their traditional Christmas reading material! Also the photo quality is not as good as I would have liked - again I won't bore you with details of why! The next newsletter should be on-time in March - it's got to be well out of the way before the next baby arrives (April)!!!

Cover

Front: Miker Jubb hands over to Marcus Scotney at the end of FRA Relay leg 1
 Rear: We are the Champions!

And Finally...

And finally for those with anoraks... keep up-to-date with the latest DPFR news and results at: www.dpfr.co.uk

