



**Ho ho ho:** Lewis Thompson of Wakefield gets into the Christmas spirit and ran in a Santa suit in The Stoop race at Penistone Hill on Sunday. He finished sixth in the U-12s race.

## By DARYL AMES

AN impressive field of senior and junior runners tackled the Stoop Fell Race held on a cool, sunny day at Penistone Hill County Park on Sunday.

British, English and Yorkshire fell running champion Natalie White, who runs for Bingley Harriers, was the guest celebrity starter.

After starting the various junior races, which had a record 112 entries, 24-year-old "Nats" won the The Stoop ladies section of the senior race for the third time.

She set a new record of 37.06, shaving over a minute off her previous best.

The massive field of 323 runners included 67 ladies. Second among the ladies was Jo Buckley, who lives on Harden Moor. Buckley also finished second in the Withins Skyline Fell Race held at the end of October.

The 2000 Stoop winner, Lisa Lacon, was only 23 seconds behind Buckley.

Race organiser David Woodhead said: "Lisa, a fourth dan black belt in karate, used her strength through the bogs to overtake guest runners Blue Haywood of Lincolnshire and Mel Hyder, the England U-14 fell running champion."

Thirty-two-year-old Rob Hope, of Pudsey and Bramley Athletics Club, won the race for the fifth time, having won in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004.

He defeated last year's winner Andi Jones of Salford and ten-time winner Ian Holmes of Keighley to claim the title in very wet conditions underfoot.

Jones was no match for Hope on the descent from the Old Haworth Boundary Standing Stone at Oxenhope Stoop.

Holmes repeated his V-40 win of last year and has never finished outside the top three positions. And incredibly he has only missed one Stoop race through illness.

All finishers in the seniors race received Rolos and a clementine. The festive prize-giving ceremony at the Old Sun Inn was enhanced by a piece of "kissy mistletoe".

In the junior section, congratulations must go to Lily McGuinness who beat all the boys to win the U-8s race outright and set a new girls record.

Bo Haywood improved the Girls U-10s record by 31 seconds while Bingley's James Hall equalled the Boys U-10s record.

Covered in mud, the juniors enjoyed the goody bags and pop with the added bonus that Natalie White had signed a individual photo for each and every one of them.

**RESULTS - Seniors race:** 1st Rob Hope, Pudsey & Bramley, 30.12; 2nd Andi Jones, Salford; 3rd (1st V-40) Ian Holmes of



**Family day out:** Keighley & Craven runner Dick Ballantine of Haworth The Stoop in 43rd place with a time of 38.44. It was a family occasion as daughters Poppy (5.45) and Kitty (7.07) ran in the U-8s race and his wife also registered a time of 48.56 in the seniors race.

Keighley, Bingley Harriers, 31.01; 7th Ted Mason of Skipton, Wharfedale, 33.18; 8th Chris Loftus of Keighley, Keighley & Craven, 33.28; 10th Lee Athersmith Skipton, 33.59; 12th Adrian Jones, Keighley & Craven, 34.28; 14th (1st U-18) Rob Shaw, Keighley & Craven, 34.32; 16th Steve McDermott, Keighley & Craven, 35.14; 18th Robin Bradbury of Haworth, Bingley Harriers, 35.53; 23rd (2nd U-18) James Mountain, Skipton, 36.08; 24th Colin Moses of Oldfield, Bingley Harriers, 36.10 (3rd V-40); **Ladies race:** Natalie White, Bingley Harriers, 37.06 (record); 2nd Jo Buckley, Calder Valley, 38.04; 4th Helen Glover, Keighley & Craven, 40.26; 5th Charlotte Sanderson, Bingley Harriers, 40.43; 10th (2nd V-40) Rachel Smith, Bingley Harriers, 44.00; 12th Holly Williams, Keighley & Craven, 44.34; 13th Alice Fulton, Bingley Harriers, 44.48 (2nd U-18); **Juniors race: U-8s:** 4th (3rd boy) Louis Holmes, Keighley & Craven, 3.32; 14th (4th girl) Katie Handford, Keighley & Craven; **Boys U-10s:** 1st James Hall, Bingley Harriers, 7.17 (tied record); **Girls U-10s:** 1st Bo Haywood, Lincoln Wellington, 7.37 (record); **Boys U-12s:** 1st Ben Ingleton, Keighley & Craven, 7.10; **Girls U-12s:** 1st Rosie Helliwell, Keighley & Craven, 7.41; **Boys U-14s:** 1st Thomas Sessford, Keighley & Craven, 6.21; **Girls U-14s:** 1st Amy Fretwell, Settle Harriers, 8.46; **Boys U-16s:** 1st Matthew Fretwell, Settle Harriers, 12.24; **Girls U-16s:** 1st Holly Page, Halifax, 14.08.



**Easy does it:** Lucinda Peacock of Cross Roads, Keighley, decided the steep descent on her behalf and finished the U-8s race in 5.39.