

Elements can't stop Addison's hat-trick

ATHLETICS

by DAVE WOODHEAD

Gale-force winds and driving rain couldn't put 19-year-old England international Tom Addison off winning the 18th Withins Skyline Race for the third year on the trot.

He led the 260-strong field in the Penistone Hill event throughout but wasn't too sure of the route until the Top Withins ruin.

From there, he sped away to finish well clear of international orienteer Ian Nixon and Andrew Wrench, the first Veteran 40.

Thirty-seven-year-old Cononley athlete Ian Taylor, running for the new Craven Energy Tri-Club, finished an excellent fourth.

Other locals were Tim Edward (tenth), Shaun Wilkinson (22nd), Will Marshall (23rd) and Jack Smith (30th).

British and English under-23 fell champion Emma Clayton, running in the colours of Scunthorpe, won the ladies' race, finishing 42nd overall. Clayton, 21, had Anna Johnson, and local doctor Jo Buckley for compa-



● Event sponsor Mike Ayres, back, with the juniors who took part in the Withins Skyline rat runs

Picture: PAUL WOOD

ny at the ruin but, like Addison, was fleet of foot on the return.

Johnson and Buckley, running for Calder Valley, won the ladies' team event, with Claire Hanson 14th. Local finishers included Tamara Hird (sixth), Christine Whitaker (20th) and Carole Young (22nd).

The junior rat runs, sponsored by Precision Pest Management, attracted a record 141 kids.

The local winners were: James Hall (u14), Philip Done (u12), Charlie Lowrie (u10) and Rosie Hellowell (girls under-16).

Organiser Dave Woodhead said:

"The weather certainly didn't put a dampener on the enthusiasm shown by these youngsters and their reward at the finish was a goodie bag stuffed full of treats, along with a certificate designed by Rosie Hellowell, of Keighley & Craven AC."