

Horwich.

Clayton le Moors vets placed a magnificent sixth overall, beating Horwich and Dark Peak who came bounding in just eight seconds apart. Rossendale Harriers won the mixed team category for the first time in 20th overall, while Calder were the first local club in eighth.

As usual, there were a few problems, not least with parking of vehicles at leg hand-over points. The farmer at Wainstalls (legs 4/5) has been in touch to say that one of his walls, close to the changeover point, has been knocked down, and he reckons it has been caused by a car. The stones have fallen down three or four feet into a beck. Whoever is responsible, Halifax Harriers may now have to pay for the damage.

This does not bode well for the relay!

After all that has been said about the sheer magnitude of the event's organisation, it is still quite unbelievable how much grief some runners are still prepared to give the organisers and officials on the day. If there is a clerical problem on the morning – for example at

registration and the officials, who have been up since 5.30 a.m. are desperately trying to get it sorted, it doesn't help when certain people keep coming up and saying things like, "This is a disgrace, this is just not good enough...!"

**Try organising a race of your own, lady!!
You know who you are!!**

And if a pair of runners pick up the wrong race numbers at one of the changeovers due to announcing the wrong team name, that is THEIR fault, not that of the officials.

One team managed to do this at EVERY registration. Runners should know which team they are running for before they ask for their numbers. Our triple checklist has never failed us before. Also, all the team numbers are listed on the website so there is no excuse. One club fielded seven teams and they all got the right race numbers.

Next year will be the 25th open Calderdale Way relay. With an increased entry limit of 120 teams, we do not expect any moaning about teams not getting an entry. Enter early and enjoy the relay.

On a brighter note, Calderdale Way Relay regulars St Bedes AC of Bradford organise their own John Carr 5Km road race series, the proceeds from which are donated to charity. This year, they donated £250 to Calder Valley Search and Rescue Team. One of their team members was treated for Hypothermia during the 2006 relay.

As well as the donation, Calder Valley Search and Rescue were invited along to their club headquarters shortly before this year's Calderdale Relay to give a talk on avoidance and recognition of Hypothermia, as well as what to do if a team mate shows symptoms of it.

Allan Greenwood (for and on behalf of Halifax Harriers)

1. Horwich RMI A	5.53.36
2. Pudsey & Bramley A	5.53.46
3. Salford Harriers A	6.01.59
4. Bingley A	6.04.53
5. Dark Peak A	6.12.25
6. Clayton le Moors Vets	6.19.25
7. Wharfedale Harriers A	6.22.36
8. Calder Valley A	6.25.13
9. Bowland Fell Runners	6.30.15
10. Holmfirth Harriers A	6.32.13

VETERANS

1. (6) Clayton le Moors	6.19.25
2. (15) Horwich RMI	6.48.21
3. (16) Dark Peak	6.48.29
4. (32) Clayton le Moors	B7.16.11
5. (35) Bowland	7.23.07

LADIES

1. (34) Bingley	7.21.23
2. (39) Ilkley	7.27.02
3. (47) Holmfirth	7.35.16
4. (56) Dark Peak	7.54.31
5. (58) Horwich	7.55.28

MIXED

1. (20) Rossendale	6.58.51
2. (33) Stainland Lions A	7.18.39
3. (37) Wharfedale	7.26.41

111 finishing teams

STOOP West Yorks

BS/5m/800ft 16.12.07

29 year old 2005 winner, Andi Jones, dominated the Stoop fell race, beating 5 times winner and current British champion, Robert Hope, along with current English champion Simon Bailey, leading from start to finish. The very icy conditions suited this road man and by the old Haworth boundary summit standing stone he was 30 seconds ahead of the chasers. On the 'treacherous' descent, Robert and Simon closed in but from the beck crossing they had little chance of catching the fleet footed Salford man. Andi was only 15 seconds shy of his own record set in 2005, and showed no tiredness from winning the Red Rose cross country the previous day. Robert would love to emulate the great Ian Holmes, who received an oil painting of himself competing in the race in recognition of winning the event ten times, thanks to Andi now at best he will be 39 before this great achievement can be reached. Ian, having run the event for 17 years now, never finishing outside the first three, blotted his copy book good and proper by missing the start. He assumed the race started at noon for some reason, and was warming up the other side of



The Stoop: Olivia Walwyn (Altrincham) 1st lady (new record) & 19th overall

Penistone Hill. In fact, it was Sarah Rowell heading home after a training run who put him right to the 11.30am start, consequently he gave chase with a hefty deficit to claw back - not even Ian could manage this! He did make plenty of runners day by show casing his skills to those that don't normally see them. Thank you Ian for this great display. For his 78th position, Ian did win a spot prize, which added to the fun festive prize giving back at the Old Sun, and seeing him hiding from photographers, and the race video was also entertaining.

41 year old Gary Devine was pleased as punch to win the veteran category, and have the crackerjack prize with wife Debbie and daughter Leah keeping a close eye on what goodies were going back to the Devine residence! Brian Goodison won the V50, while British & English V60 champion, Dave Tait, suffered a rare defeat at the feet of Jim Shemilt. In 'days gone by', Jim was an Oxford blue and represented Northern Ireland as a track athlete. Nowadays he's seen the light and fell running is his passion, although he's still learning the trade.

Olivia Walwyn sliced nearly two minutes off Natalie White's course record, to finish in 19th overall and seems to enjoy these moors after winning the Auld Lang Syne in 2006. Since that race the 24 year old newly qualified primary school teacher has had a memorable year, running for the Great Britain team in the European uphill championships and also representing England at the Mount Snowdon race. Sharon Taylor along with Emma Clayton, were also inside Natalie's record of 37.06, finishing second and third respectively. Diane Haggard led home Ilkley Harriers in 6th to the chocolate ladies' team awards with Victoria Stevens, 7th and Val Kerr 14th. Emily Whitehead who finished 18th lady had a surprise in the pub when called forward for her prize, turning 35 that day the assembled runners all sang 'Happy Birthday'. It might have been out of key but it was heartfelt, this was not the only surprise the Whitehead's had as Emily's husband, Tim, won the Crosstrax free shoe prize draw, so watch out for this newly shod Keighley runner.

The Curly Wurly races certainly had the WOW factor with an astonishing record number of eager beavers turning out in the bitterly cold icy conditions - 145, that's bigger than some senior races. First off out of the quarry at break neck speed were 56 U8s where Thomas Sumner dashed across the finish line, and then dashed off to a Karate competition. First girl was Georgia Smith Calvert in 9th overall. In the U10, U12, U14 & U16 combined race, Sean Carey won the U14s, Rosie Hellawell in 5th overall and the Yorkshire GU14 champion just finished behind U12 winner Ben Johnson, while in the U10 boys, Philip Done, by a mere second, out sprinted Niall Oxley. Both these had GU10 record holder, Abby Mae Parkinson, breathing down their neck. Abby loves running almost as much as swimming - she is currently the North East of England champion and the Yorkshire champion. One of Abby's ambitions is to win the GU12 Yorkshire fells title, which is currently held by Emma Wilkinson who finished 11th overall and of course first GU12. A new record was set in the U16 race by Thomas Sessford who beat Ben Lindsay's 2003 time by 10 seconds with second placed Jonathan Bradshaw also dipping inside the record. If these two follow

in Ben's footsteps then in years to come they will be running in the World and European cross country championships. Sarah Wilson once again took the girls' honours.

We nearly ran out of goody bags, the question is do we make up 200 next time, now that would be a sight to see!

Dave Woohead

1. A. Jones	Salf	29.07
2. R. Hope	P&B	29.35
3. S. Bailey	Mercia	29.55
4. A. Hilton	York	31.21
5. G. Devine O/40	P&B	31.46
6. G. Pearce	P&B	31.55
7. T. Mason	Wharf	32.41
8. T. Bush	Alltrin	33.22
9. K. Livesey	Wharf	33.31
10. Q. Lewis	Baild	34.06

VETERANS O/50

1. (21) B. Goodison	Abbey	35.19
2. (33) P. Grimes	H'fax	36.24
3. (37) A. Normandale	York	36.28

VETERANS O/60

1. (61) J. Shemilt	York	38.09
2. (71) D. Tait	DkPk	38.57
3. (89) J. Lailey	SRibble	40.34

LADIES

1. (19) O. Walwyn	Altrin	35.13
2. (39) S. Taylor	Bing	36.31
3. (42) E. Clayton	Scunth	36.55
4. (102) C. Preston O/40	Tod	41.59
5. (129) C. Hanson	Cald	43.28
(134) D. Haggard O/40	Ilk	43.50
(157) J. Smith O/50	Tod	45.39
(201) A. Freund O/50	Baild	51.07

227 finishers

JUNIORS Under 10, 12 and 14

1m/150ft

1. S. Carey U/14	Tod	6.27
2. M. Scott U/14	RichZ	6.35
3. J. Crossfield U/14	Hfx	6.41
4. B. Johnson U/12	Wharfe	6.54
5. R. Hellawell Girl U/14	Kghly	6.56
6. J. Hall U/12	Bing	7.05
7. J. Ferguson U/12	Unatt	7.14
8. J. Hearle U/12	Mercia	7.29
(11) E. Wilkinson Girl		
U/12	Spen	7.38
(15) P. Done U/10	Kghly	7.55
(16) N. Oxley U/10	CaldV	7.53
(18) A. Parkinson Girl		
U/10	BfdGr	7.59

86 finishers

JUNIORS - Under 8

1.5m/100ft

1. T. Sumner	Unatt	3.13
2. J. Garside	Unatt	3.19
3. L. Holmes	Kghly	3.20
4. R. Johnson	Wharfe	3.25
5. M. Furness	Kghly	3.26
(9) G. Calvert Girl	Spen	3.40
(16) G. Johnson	CaldV	3.55
(17) E. Cox	Kghly	3.58

56 finishers

CRUIM LEACAINN

Fort William

BM/6.2m/1050ft 26.12.07

The Cruim Leacainn hill race was held on a wet and windy Boxing Day.

At the summit, Donald Paterson and Craig Mitchell were just inches apart - the bookie's

favourite was Craig. However, Donald flew down the hill and while Craig fell down, Donald opened up a small gap, winning by under a minute. There was quite a scrap for third with Paul Matthews finishing five seconds ahead of Tom Smith, who was five seconds ahead of Alan Smith, 15 seconds ahead of George Cairns.

Dawn Scott had a great run to win the ladies' race by a big margin, finishing ahead of a lot of useful male runners. Behind Dawn, four girls were determined to finish second. Youngster Sarah MacKenzie is improving with every race - she gave it everything to stay in front of Emma Pearce but overshot the final road junction and so finished 20 seconds adrift of Emma with Nix Forster not far behind finishing fourth. Sarah Byrne was also up there until she went way off course near the end. Sarah said she wasn't looking for a short cut on this occasion and even back-tracked half a mile uphill to rejoin the official route, costing her about 20 places.

The 45 runners were divided into two groups in various ways. By gender, the boys beat the girls 23 to 22. By age, the youngsters beat the over 40s 26 to 19. By vision, the sighted who remarked how well the course was flagged, and the myopic who got lost!

Roger Boswell

1. D. Paterson	Lochab	45.15
2. C. Mitchell	Lochab	46.06
3. P. Matthews	AbdnMet	47.23
4. T. Smith	Lochab	47.28
5. A. Smith O/40	Dees	47.33
6. G. Cairns	Lochab	47.48
7. P. Kennedy	Lochab	48.27
8. N. Sedgewick	Unatt	50.06
9. P. MacLean	Lochab	50.18
10. G. Muir	Lochab	50.28

VETERANS O/40

1. (5) A. Smith	Dees	47.33
2. (11) D. Munro	Lochab	50.36
3. (20) P. Duggan	Lochab	62.57

VETERANS O/50

1. (15) D. Duncan	Ochil	56.04
2. (22) R. Murdoch	Lochab	63.44
3. (27) A. Finimore	Lochab	68.08

VETERANS O/60

1. (21) G. Smith	Lochab	63.30
2. (23) E. Orr	Lochab	64.24

LADIES

1. (12) D. Scott	Lochab	50.48
2. (16) E. Pearce	Lochab	60.24
3. (17) S. MacKenzie	Lochab	60.45
4. (19) N. Forster O/40	Lochab	62.08
5. (25) E. Gow	Lochab	66.50

45 finishers

TURKEY TROT

Mourne Mountains

AS/5.5m/1500ft 26.12.07

Matt Williamson was the winner of this years Turkey Trot. The Glasgow based runner surprised the locals who has been speculating amongst themselves as to the likely winner as three times winner Steve Neill and NI champion Deon McNeilly were absent. A study of the results from the previous two Turkey Trots would have revealed that Matt was by no means an unknown quantity as he had carved out a couple of fifth places, and his times were improving.

Gary Bailey led briefly and was first onto the hills but he soon dropped back as the effects