

# SOREN STANBURY SPLASH FELL RACE

at Penistone Hill Country Park, Haworth

# IDEAL HOLMES

IAN HOLMES broke his own course record to win the Soren Stanbury Splash fell race for an incredible sixth successive year.

The Bingley Harrier knocked nearly a second off his previous best time to finish the gruelling seven mile race in 43 minutes 35 seconds.

The Great Britain and England fell runner proved to be just too good for the field of 277 runners as he beat his nearest rival by over two minutes with Bradford Airdale runner Steve Oldfield finishing in second place in 46 mins 23 secs.

However Oldfield can feel pleased with his day's work as his time was a new record for the veteran 40s.

It was a day of records for the annual race that is now in its 17th year.

Tony Hesketh of Horwich recorded the best time for the veteran 50 section with a time of 50.51 as he finished 18th overall. And Elizabeth Tomes of Keighley and Craven beat the previous best in the female veteran 40 section with a time of 59 mins 32 secs.

Top local runner was Sean Willis of Todmorden Harriers who finished in fourth place in 46 mins 49 secs. Club-mate Jon Wright finished one place behind in 47.45.

There was also a top 20 finish for Clayton Harriers runner Shaun Addison who came home in 51 mins 6 secs.

While Holmes' feat was no doubt the highlight of the day, Anne Smith of Park High, Colne showed she was a definite star of the future when she won the one mile quarry run in a time of 6 mins 1 seconds.

Race organiser Dave Woodhead said he cannot remember the last time a girl beat

a field of boys in a junior race. And it was no flash in the pan as Smith had earlier won the junior Stoop Fell race — a race Holmes as won for the last nine years in the senior section.

The race is known as the Splash as runners have to cross the Sladen and Ponden rivers on two occasions.

The climb of 1,200 feet makes it one of the toughest fell races around but at least competitors could feast on a malt loaf which were handed out to competitors by race sponsors Warburtons.

**TOP 20:** 1. Ian Holmes, Bingley Harriers 43.35 (NR), 2. Steve Oldfield, Bradford Airdale 46.23 (V40), 3. Robert Hudson, Imperial 46.30, 4. Sean Willis, Todmorden Harriers 46.49, 5. Jon Wright, Todmorden Harriers 47.45, 6. Gavin Bland, Borrowdale 48.02, 7. Gary Oldfield, Pudsey and Bramley 48.02, 8. Jason Helmsley, Pudsey and Bramley 48.26, 9. Chris Loftus, Keighley and Craven 48.43, 10. Chris Seddon, Horwich 48.45, 11. Steve Neill, Pudsey and Bramley 48.42, 12. Jovvy Guter, Keighley and Craven 49.14 (V40), 13. Rob Haworth, Middleton 49.25 (V40), 14. Ted Mason, Wharfedale 49.53, 15. Steve Jackson, Horwich 50.24 (V40), 16. Andy Shaw, Holmfirth 50.32, 17. Richard Crossland, Bradford, 50.50 (V40), 18. Tony Hesketh, Horwich, 50.51 (V50), 19. Steve Bottomley, Pudsey and Bramley 51.02, 20. Shaun Addison, Clayton Harriers 51.06 (V40)

**LOCAL CLUBS: DARWEN DASHERS:** 209. David Shorrocks 68.16, 236. Jim Taylor 72.51

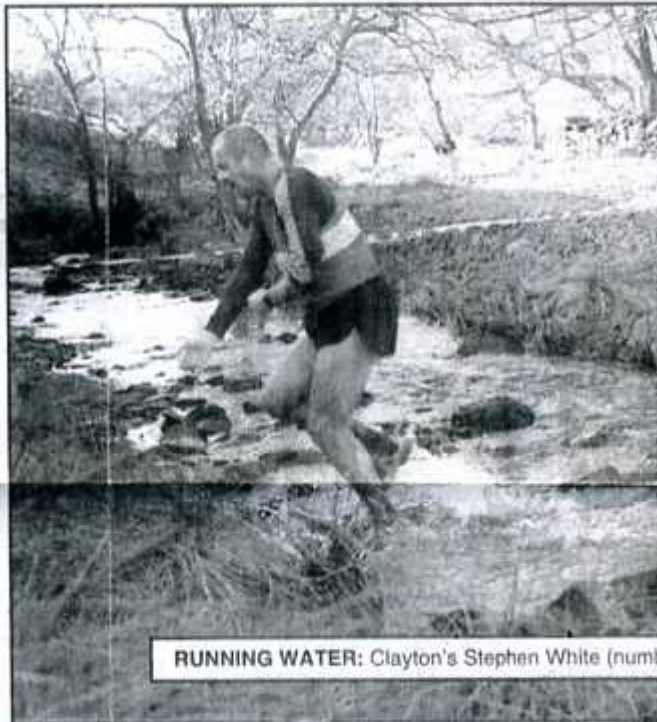
**CLAYTON HARRIERS:** 20. Shaun Addison, Clayton Harriers 51.06 (V40), 41. David McGuire 53.20, 50. Mark Nutter, 54.48, 65. Jeff Pickup 56.41

**TODMORDEN HARRIERS:** 4. Sean Willis 46.49, 5. John Wright 47.45, 34. Robert Glover 52.17, 47. Joe Kuterus 54.20.

**ACCRINGTON ROAD RUNNERS:** 150. Derek Athies 63.10

**ROSSENDALE HARRIERS:** 26. Martin Tong 51.45, 27. Ken Taylor 51.48, 46. Steve Clawson 54.17

**JUNIOR RACE:** 1. Anne Smith, Park High, Colne 6.01, 2. Mark Addison, Clayton (unatt) 6.03, 3. Mark Thwaites, Sky Rac 6.14, 4. Luke Turner Clayton le Moors 6.36, 12. Toby Sirkett, Darwen Dashers 7.09, 14. Sam Holden, Darwen Dashers 7.15, 19. Naomi Sirkett, Darwen Dashers 7.36, 45. Katie Glover, Todmorden Harriers, 46. Robert Stott Rosendale Harriers 12.16, 48. Adele Glover, Todmorden Harriers 12.26.



RUNNING WATER: Clayton's Stephen White (num



YOUNG AND OLD: Clayton Harrier Kelron Turner who was fi



THEY'RE OFF: Competitors at the start of the junior race