

# IT'S A HOLMES RUN YET AGAIN

## ATHLETICS

by DAVE WOODHEAD

Keighley's Ian Holmes won the Soreen Stanbury Splash for the 15th consecutive time since 1996.

The 44-year-old led the 298-strong field home in the seven-mile Penistone Hill-based event.

His time of 43min 17sec was just too good for last year's runner-up Graham Pearce, who gave the Bingley Harrier a tremendous tussle before having to settle for second again in 43:34.

Electrician Paul Crabtree would love to get his hands on the first local trophy but was thwarted yet again – and this time he played a part in his own downfall.

He was pipped by fellow Wharfedale Harrier Christian Holmes, who finished a second in front and said: "I have to thank Paul for all his help. His training has brought me on tremendously. You could say he has trained me to win the locals' trophy."

Twenty-five-year-old Helen Glover, from Haworth, won the female race for the third time, having far too much pace for Karen Pickles, who was second lady home.

Bingley Harriers won the men's team prize, while Ilkley claimed the ladies' equivalent for the third year running.

This year's Splash had extra significance for Lyn Eden, who last year set a target of competing in 65 races to mark her 65th birthday – a goal she achieved on Sunday to the delight of her Ilkley Harrier teammates, who greeted her finish with champagne and flowers.

The junior 'Chew it, then do it' Soreen races remained as popular as ever with 139 competing.

Every runner received a Soreen malt loaf from the event sponsors, while juniors received extra goodies.

**Results, Top ten:** 1 Ian Holmes (Bingley, V40) 43:17, 2 Graham Pearce (Pudsey & Bramley) 43:34, 3 Tom Adams (Ilkley) 45:54, 4 Tom Brunt (Holmfirth) 46:08, 5 Rick Stuart (FRA, V40) 46:20, 6 Robin Lawrence (Bingley) 47:00, 7 Bill Stewart (Holmfirth) 47:03, Stuart Carmichael (City of Hull)



● Christian Holmes, in front of Paul Crabtree, on his way to first local Picture: PAUL WOOD

47.12, 9 Chris Loftus (Keighley & Craven) 47:57, 10 Ian Wellock (Wharfedale) 48:34.

**Other leading locals:** 16 Christian Holmes (Wharfedale) 49:10, 16 Paul Crabtree (Wharfedale, V40) 49:11, 21 Shaun Wilkinson (Kly & C, V40) 49:53, 22 Andrew Jebb (Bingley) 50:14, 23 Paul Mitchell (Bingley, V40) 50:37. **Top vet 50:** 30 Neil Holding (West Pennine, V50) 51:34; **Top woman:**

44 Helen Glover (Kly & C) 52:58. **Juniors – Boys, Under-16s:** Zac Howe; **Under-14s:** Lewis Byram; **Under-12s:** Seth Waterman; **Under-tens:** Matthew Crocken; **Under-eights:** George Hobbs. **Girls, Under-16s:** Pippa Barrett; **Under-14s:** Harmonie Waterman, **Under-12s:** Phoebe Howe, **Under-tens:** Gemma Johnson; **Under-eights:** Ruby Schofield.