



High Peak Marathon

Organised by past and present members of The University of Sheffield Mountaineering Club.

High Peak Marathon 2015

Race Report

Described 'as the toughest walk in the Peak District' by long distance walker John Merrill and similarly by many others, the Derwent Watershed (on which High Peak Marathon is based) is considered a very challenging summer's day expedition. Attempting such a route on a winter's night leads many to believe that the HPM is one of the toughest fell races in the country.

This year conditions were fairly typical- i.e. pretty grim. A strong, cold, wind combined with intermittent clag and rain meant that for many teams this year's HPM was simply a matter of battling to get round. Inevitably there were a few casualties. Of the 43 starting teams, 4 teams retired with another 4 finishing as a team of 3. Many suffered with their eyes caused by the wind and depleted levels of glycogen. We had one person succumb more severely to the cold, showing the first, if not second, signs of hypothermia. Fortunately thanks to the efforts of his team mates and our medical student at Snake checkpoint he was soon revived to a more healthy temperature.

The student organising team were thrown into a battle before that with the radio equipment on Win Hill (the linchpin of our radio network). After winning the first skirmish by fixing a dodgy aerial connection the marshals were defeated by an obstinate generator. A back-up solution was quickly found by text messaging (being the default method of communication for students). But in the wilds of Derbyshire the text service was not as efficient and when our mini-bus got stuck in a rut we didn't realise that the Snake checkpoint had not received their supply of food and water until too late and the first 7 teams had to manage without. We are very sorry to those who were looking forward to a cup of tea.

Despite the conditions the top teams still posted incredibly fast times. The battle for first was between last year's runners-up 'Haggis on Tour' who put in a tremendous effort to try and unseat 'Flipper's Gang' from their throne. They set fastest split after fastest split, only to come undone in the maze of groughs and hags on Bleaklow and somewhere in the gloom they were overtaken by the incumbent course experts (remember that the fastest teams are doing this section in the dark). Bleaklow is certainly a strange place that can remain a mystery to even the most local runners (as proven by the 'Edale²' team). But then no-one has ever said that the High Peak Marathon was meant to be easy!

Results

The Millstone Trophy- Overall Winners



'Flipper's Gang' - 8:25:44- Stephen Pyke, Jon Morgan., Jez Rob, Stephen Watts

The Tanky Stokes Trophy- First Mixed Team



'Haggis On Tour' - 8:36:30 (2nd overall)- Ian Whiteside, Jasmin Paris, Konrad Rawlik, Jon Ascroft,

The Rucksack Club Ladies Trophy- First All Female Team



'Does My Bum Look Big In Mist?' 10:11:12 (8th overall)- Judith Jepson, Sally Fawcett, Caitlin Rice, Heather Marshall

The Rucksack Club Veterans Handicap Trophy- Fastest/Oldest! (sorry no photo)

'Bowland Vets' 11:32:40 (11th overall), handicap time =7:41:47 - Yiannis Tridimas, Alan Duncan, Leigh Warburton, Neil Shepherd

High Peak Marathon 2015 Results

Note n/c= non-competitive (finished as incomplete team)

Pos	Name	Team	Category	Time	Vet	Min/Hr	Vet Time
1st	Flipper's Gang	S Watts/S Pyke/J Bragg/J Morgan	MV	08:25:44	180	5	07:43:35
2nd	Haggis on Tour	J Paris/K Rawlik/J Ascroft/I Whiteside	MIX	08:36:30			
3rd	Who's Navigating	G Borrell/L Piercy/D Lund/R Hunt	M	09:00:32			
4th	Return of the Dark Side	S Patton/N Spinks/J Hunt/M Nolan	MIXV	09:11:15	189	7	08:06:56
5th	Too Much Fibre II	A Perry/P Atkin/K Collison/A Thompson	M	09:33:41			
6th	Valley Bee Team	J Pemberton/L Langdon/D Ward/J Barrett	M	09:38:34			
7th	Iced Spiced 2	A Stirk/T Bush/A Higgins/D Steen	M	10:05:32			
8th	Does My Bum Look Big in Mist?	S Fawcett/J Jepson/C Rice/H-C Marshall	F	10:11:12			
9th	Brotherhood of Snake	C Webb/C Stansfield/T Whittaker/C Bishop	MV	11:17:50	172	3	10:43:57
10th	Mahogany Ridge Fell Runners	S Matthews/S Broadhurst/K Savile/M Rigby	MIXV	11:22:31	194	8	09:51:31
11th	Bowland vets	Y Tridimas/A Duncan/L Warburton/N Shepherd	MV	11:32:40	241	20	07:41:47
12th	Ladies from the Dark Side	K Bryan-Jones/R Horn/J Nolan/N Parkin	FV	11:38:17	183	5	10:40:06
13th	Fat boys big day out	H Whittaker/R Higginson/B Davison/D Edmunds	MV	11:51:15	181	5	10:51:59
n/c	Pussycat Trolls	K Hewitson/G Dewhurst/C Griffin/D Harris	MIXV	11:55:56	173	3	11:20:08
14th	The John Hewitt Appreciation Society	T Culshaw/T Brookes/A McVey/R White	M	11:57:38			
15th	Team EnduranceLife	G Davies/I Grace/N Taylor/K Robie	MIX	12:07:05			
16th	CASH's Team	A Priestley/H Dawe/C Gordon/S O'Neil	F	12:13:55			
17th	Mountaineering Club Team 1	A McCann/J Lowe/P Clarke/N Priestly	M	12:29:15			
18th	Penistone Bog Trotters	I Charlesworth/S Stead/J Pierce/S Sanders	MV	12:30:27	170	2	12:05:26
19th	Team Spinach	K Love/H Ohly/P Collier/E Van Der Gucht	F	12:40:45			
20th	Doctor and the Medics	R Batty/W Kitchen/L Wiegand/F Fullwood	MIXV	12:44:35	169	2	12:19:06
21st	Grindleford gazelles and two old goats	D Miller/M Heason/I White/E Richardson	MV	12:51:35	165	1	12:38:43
22nd	Team Flapjack	N Wright/J Scott/D Black/P Bartlett	MV	12:51:38	178	4	12:00:11
23rd	North and South	K Minter/M Clayton/R Clark/T Keely	MV	12:54:00	191	7	11:23:42
24th	Gay Dads	G Yates/M Bourne/T Ray/N Drake	MV	12:56:24	182	5	11:51:42
25th	The Bog Monsteroos	B Stallwood/H Cox/G Coventry/S McDonald	MIXV	12:58:15	192	8	11:14:29
26th	Tod Totty	L Murgatroyd/K Brierley/C Harris/E Milnes	FV	13:28:43	209	12	10:46:58
27th	Mountaineering Club Team 2	C Wadsworth/H Lewis/B Stoker/L Baddeley	MIX	13:30:31			
n/c	Buzz Lightyear's Fell rangers	N Smith/J Adair/C Hough/A Brightmore	MIX	13:38:17			
28 th	It will be alright on the night	J Powell Davies/A Cook/T Marlow/R Campbell	MIXV	13:41:12	171	2	13:13:50
29 th	Double D - Dallam Doofers	S Hurst/J Leech/T Phillip/R Jarvis	MV	13:43:26	201	10	11:26:12
n/c	Spencer's Trousers	J Rennie/D Rennie/M Rawlinson/L Ashton	MV	13:49:25	183	5	12:40:18
30 th	Lost lads	P Elliot/D Egan/D Shepherd/P McNulty	M	13:53:23	241	20	09:15:35
31 st	Ashbourne	D Patrick/A Williams/A Wainwright/G Hutchings	MIXV	13:59:35	199	9	11:53:39
32 nd	Edale (squared)	L Such/B Robson/A Kirkland/P Fraser-Smith	MIXV	14:11:56	168	2	13:43:32
n/c	Team Pot Noodle	A Beresford/B Lindsay/S Wathall/M Howard	MIXV	14:12:07	214	13	11:07:29
33th	Southwell peat surfers	R Andrews/Alex Lewis/Paul Orton/Amanda Porter	MIXV	14:51:05	182	5	13:36:50
34th	Mean Girls	J Cooper-Knock/S Cooper-Knock/R Mead/T Brightwell	MIX	15:41:10			
35th	Royces Rollers	A Pollock/C Cooper/P Adams/S Leach	MV	17:49:53	242	20	11:53:15
rtd	Rainbow Worriers	D Turner-Swift/R Turner/C Rainbow/L Hockham	MV		194	8	
rtd	Calderdale Somnambulists	M Armstrong/D Gurr/P Scarf/J Scarf	MIXV		200	10	
rtd	Living the Dream	D Sexton/S Mills/Vy Wright/S Lyons	MIXV		181	5	
rtd	Powered by Iodium	R Litherland/I Symington/J Mann/E Bailey	M				

Note n/c= non-competitive i.e. finished as incomplete team