

Harrier Report End May 2014

Sunday 18th May was Eyam Half Marathon; a favourite of Bryan Lomas as he hails from that neck of the woods. This road race is one of the more challenging 13.1milers as it consists of a number of steep, long up hill climbs. Despite this, the event is a popular one, with around 400 entrants on what proved to be quite a hot day. The race starts in the middle of the village which was made famous by its association with the plague which was reputed to have been transported there from London in a roll of cloth. Only three Harriers were up to the challenge with Bryan Lomas leading the Harrier field and finishing in 1:27:25 and a creditable 13th place. Ali McNinch and Lucy Rusbridge completed in similar times of 2:13:29 and 2:13:54. Lomas has stated that he will return next year.

The following Sunday, 25th May, Lomas travelled to another Peak District town to take part in the Buxton Half Marathon, another road race with a number of hills. 248 runners took part and Lomas managed a slightly quicker time than the previous week at 1:25:46. Jo Moss was very pleased to be 7th Lady and 1st LV40, crossing the finish line in 1:42:38. Rob Parkin had a good race and was third Harrier home in 1:50:17, with Debbie Hill not far behind in 1:53:42. Lucy Rusbridge and Ali McNinch were also back after Eyam Half but finished in reverse order. Both achieved PBs and knocked many minutes off their times of the previous week with Rusbridge completing the course in 2:01:54 and McNinch in 2:03:56.

The following day was the Bamford Sheep Dog Trials Fell Race with four Harriers travelling across to take part in the four and a half mile event with just over 1000 feet of ascent. The runners were lulled into a false sense of security as the first part of the course was flat before a long steep section up Parkin Clough where many runners resorted to walking, and a final climb up onto the summit of Winhill. The remainder of the race was a steep descent. Bryan Lomas was the first Harrier to finish in 17th place in 37:14. Dave Taylor had an excellent run and finished in 48:02. Rich Benson was just over 4 minutes behind in 52:16 and Harry Stubbs brought up the rear in 54:28.

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