

The Cumberland Fell Runners Association

Second Wasdale Fell Race

July 14th, 1973

RESULTS

Entries - 72 Starters - 52 Finishers - 48

Individual Prizewinners:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. J. Naylor | Kendal A.C. |
| 2. A. Churchill | Clayton-le-Moors |
| 3. H. Walker | Blackburn |
| 4. J. Norman | Altrincham |
| 5. D. Halstead | Blackburn |
| 6. P. Walkington | Bolton |

Veterans: (over 40)

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. E. Roberts | Kendal A.C. |
| 2. K. Brooks | Leyland Motors |
| 3. T. Sykes | Rochdale |
| 4. D. R. Talbot | Clayton-le-Moors |

Team Prize:

Kendal A.C.
(J. Naylor, M. Nicholson, D. Hughes)

After weeks of fine dry weather, the race day was wet and misty making conditions underfoot dangerous and route finding more of a problem than usual. Mountain rescue observers paid tribute to the fine standard of fitness and capability of all competitors on the fells, none of whom went seriously astray or were injured, apart from minor scratches and bruises.

Following the Ennerdale race, when the mist was also low, this race highlighted again the importance of route finding techniques, even though the course is known beforehand. These two races are not merely super-arduous cross country races - they are also a test of ones general capability on the fells. One cannot be too careful or meticulous about this aspect of ones preparation for the race. Having had a hand in planning the course myself and having trained over it, I still contrived to lose myself and Mike Nicholson on Lingmell, and so add twenty minutes to our time. However, perhaps the most heartbreaking aspect of the race was when Dave Halstead, Harry Walker and Jeff Norman, having reached the finishing line in 2nd, 3rd and 4th positions, had to be sent back to the final checkpoint on Lingmell which they had missed. In the meantime Andy Churchill, despite also getting lost; but less lost than the rest of us, nipped through to finish a remarkable second. (A spectator commented that all these goings on at the finish were very exciting!) Several of the later runners also missed this point in the mist but since they were not amongst the prizes we didn't insist on them returning. Whilst that particular point is perfectly obvious in clear weather, it is much more of a problem than the peaks in mist. Since we do not want to over emphasize the orienteering aspect of the race, the Committee will be seriously reconsidering the final run off Scafell Pike.

Of course, all this activity on Lingmell was going on long after the winner, Jos Naylor, had coasted through a comfortable winner in the great time of 3 hrs. 45 mins. Congratulations to him and to all prize winners, not forgetting Eric Roberts who once more led home the veterans, in 10th position. The Cumberland Fell Runners Association and donors provided a truly magnificent prize list - a list worthy, I think, of the magnitude of the race. The certificates were also much appreciated and our thanks to Mr Wainwright who regarded it an honour to have one of his sketches used for such a purpose.

Finally, our grateful thanks to:

Tommy Orr for providing the handsome winners trophy,
J. Long and R. P. Brook for prize donations,
Mrs Long, Mrs Branch and Mrs Magorrigan for providing
the tea and Mrs Roberts for helping with the orange juice,
Wasdale Mountain Rescue for excellent coverage of the
race,
All checkpoint officials,
St. John's Ambulance Brigade, and, (last but not least) -
Eric Ivison and the Rock and Fell Club for use of their
premises.

Danny Hughes
Chairman and Race Secretary

P.S. Found - 1 Cagoul.

