

CHAPELFELL TOP FELL RACE 25 JULY 1999

For those of you that have done the 3 mile St Johns Chapel show fell race, this new event must have come as a bit of a shock to the system. Although it starts in roughly the same place, the nature of the two courses couldn't be more different. Five miles and 1322 feet of climbing make the Chapelfell Top course one of the few category A fell races in the North East. Starting behind the Golden Lion pub the route climbs right from the start until it reaches Chapelfell and the peat hags on the top of the fell. A short, steep and very rough route. Going by the comments made to me as the runners passed the summit, none of which were polite, it took quite a few of you by surprise.

First off from the start was Barry Stephenson from the host club, Quakers. Not only was this 17 year old Barry's first fell race but it was also the first time that he had even ran on the fell. Barry set such a pace that it was not until 50 metres from the summit that Joe Blackett of Mandale caught him. Judging by the expression on his face, Joe obviously didn't expect to have to work so hard to catch him up. From here Joe made use of his greater fell experience and opened a slight gap between himself and Barry on the descent. By the finish, Joe was 30 seconds clear to set the course record of 33.12.

In the ladies event, Karen Robertson of Northumberland Fell Runners dominated the race. At the turnaround point at the summit she was lying 12th overall but slipped a few positions to finally finish 15th overall in 37.46, a full 6 minutes in front of Denise Tunstall of Teesdale who was second lady and first lady vet.

After four races in the series, Paul Gaines of Tynedale is still leading the senior man category despite losing a few points in this race, with Ian Mulvey of NFR second, just three points behind. With the series being the best four results out of six, these two have 188 and 185 points respectively out of a maximum of 200. Whilst both Paul and Ian could still better these point totals in the last two races, there are one or two runners who have not yet completed four races who could start to challenge them. The most notable being Joe Blackett. With two wins out of two, giving him maximum points of 100 in the last two races, Joe could, in theory, make the maximum 200 if he decides to compete in Stanhope and the Alan Lamb. We'll have to wait and see.

In the male vet over 40 class, Michael Mallen of Crook is leading with 197 points out of a maximum 200 with Tony Young of Elvet second with 191. The only other runner who could catch either of them is Steve Lumb of Quakers who has 146 points after three races and is quite capable of scoring high points in either of the last two races.

In the male vet over 50 class the winner is already decided. With 199 points out of a possible 200, Les Stephenson can't be caught. At the moment Richard Wall of Quakers is lying second but it is possible for him to be caught by a number of people if they score the required points in the last two races.

In the over 60 class, Alan Purvis and Joe Garbarino are both lying equal after completing one race each. With the over 60s being decided on only the medium and short races, if they both turn up for the Stanhope race, the first home will take the title. If only one does that one will win. If neither of them turn up, then I just won't bother giving the prize away.

In the senior men's team category with the Quakers being the only club to field a complete team in three of the four races nobody is going to beat them.

In the male vet team category things look a lot more interesting. After four races, the Quakers have a total of 38 points but NFR are standing on 20 and with two races to go and a possible other 20 points available they could just take the title.

In the ladies series, Beverley Blakeman is currently leading with 39 points from Sally Rouse on 35 and Kendra White on 30. Only these three have completed two races and with only two races to go the championship is between the three of them. So it does really depend on who turns up at the next two races.

Jan Young is leading the ladies vet series on 77 points although Denise Tunstall is lying on 40 after only competing in two races. If she competes in the last two races, she could in theory overtake Jan, as could Jan's team mate Yvonne Jones.

The ladies team race has only had one race where a complete team has been entered. Quakers just won this by one point over Elvet. So who knows what is likely to happen in the next races.

Details of the last two races in the series are below.

September 26	Stanhope Common Fell Race	BM	10 mile	1500 feet
<i>From the Stanhope Ford, Stanhope, Weardale</i>		<i>GR</i>		
<i>Partially marked course. Experience/local knowledge/navigation skills required. Full kit may be required dependant upon the weather. Over 18. Start time 11:00 am. Entry £ 3.50</i>				
October 24	Alan Lamb Memorial Fell Race	BL	20 mile	4852 feet
<i>From the Visitor Centre, Hamsterley Forest</i>		<i>GR 092 312</i>		
<i>Partially marked course. Full kit compulsory. Kit checks will be in force. Over 18. Start time 10:00 am. Entry £ 4.00 All Forest Enterprise toll and parking charges included within race entry fee.</i>				

SEE YOU AT STANHOPE.

CHAPELFELL TOP FELL RACE

25-Jul-99

OVERALL RESULTS

POSITION	NUMBER	NAME	CLUB	RACE	SERIES	TIME	
				CATEGORY	CATEGORY		
1	7	BLAKETT	JOE	MANDALE	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:33:12
2	6	STEPHENSON	BARRY	QUAKERS	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:33:48
3	19	GREEN	ANDY	TYNEDALE	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:34:04
4	15	BROADHURST	MICHAEL	TYNEDALE	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:34:17
5	43	HARRISON	RHETT	RICH.& ZET.	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:34:35
6	25	ARMSTRONG	DAVID	NFR	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:34:43
7	14	MULVEY	IAN	NFR	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:34:50
8	44	MAYNARD	KEN	QUAKERS	MALE O40	MALE SENIOR	00:34:51
9	41	MALLEN	MICHAEL	CROOK	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:35:49
10	51	LUMB	STEVE	QUAKERS	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:36:01
11	32	WARHURST	IAN	PENNINE	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:37:16
12	47	YOUNG	TONY	ELVET	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:37:26
13	45	MAYNARD	RAY	QUAKERS	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:37:35
14	12	BRADSHAW	GRAHAM	CROOK	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:37:37
15	49	ROBERTSON	KAREN	NFR	LADY SENIOR	LADY SENIOR	00:37:46
16	17	GAINES	PAUL	TYNEDALE	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:38:24
17	10	HINDMARCH	TONY	EVENWOOD	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:38:36
18	26	SCOTT	PETER	NFR	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:38:44
19	42	DAVIS	GEOFF	NFR	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:38:45
20	57	BRUNSKILL	MICK	QUAKERS	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:39:18
21	63	WRAY	MIKE	QUAKERS	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:39:28
22	9	LAYBOURN	ANDREW	EVENWOOD	MALE O50	MALE O40	00:41:07
23	30	HUMBLE	JOHN	NFR	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:41:29
24	8	WALKER	STEVEN	NFR	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:41:30
25	33	SHINN	DAVE	KENDAL	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:41:39
26	38	TURNPENNY	LEE		MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:43:04
27	22	MASON	DAVE	QUAKERS	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:43:16
28	34	HART	TERRY	BLYTH	MALE O50	MALE O50	00:43:33
29	62	ATWELL	KEVIN	NFR	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:43:34
30	29	WATKINS	ANDY	THIRSK	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:43:36
31	16	TUNSTALL	DENISE	TEESDALE	LADY VET	LADY VET	00:43:48
32	40	HARBISHER	MARTYN	CROOK	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:44:12
33	27	STEPHENSON	LES	KENDAL	MALE O50	MALE O50	00:44:16
34	60	BLAKEMAN	BEV	SUNDERLAND	LADY SENIOR	LADY SENIOR	00:44:23
35	13	STEVENSON	RAY	MANDALE	MALE O50	MALE O50	00:44:34
36	20	STYLES	MARK	NFR	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:45:19
37	21	O'DONNELL	JOE	QUAKERS	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:45:20
38	28	GARBARINO	JOE	NFR	MALE O60	MALE O60	00:45:44
39	36	LUMSDEN	JACQUI	BLYTH	LADY SENIOR	LADY SENIOR	00:45:53
40	53	ROUSE	SALLY	ELVET	LADY SENIOR	LADY SENIOR	00:45:57
41	52	WATSON	GEOFF	ELVET	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:46:40
42	64	ATWELL	CHRIS		MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:46:42
43	35	POTTS	JOE	NFR	MALE O50	MALE O50	00:47:11
44	39	BEATY	STEWART	NFR	MALE O50	MALE O50	00:47:22
45	46	YOUNG	JAN	ELVET	LADY VET	LADY VET	00:48:07
46	55	YOUNG	HELEN	QUAKERS	LADY SENIOR	LADY SENIOR	00:48:08
47	61	LEYLAND	SUE		LADY VET	LADY VET	00:48:41
48	59	GORDON	DANNY	SWALEDALE	MALE O50	MALE O50	00:48:58
49	48	TAIT	RICHARD	QUAKERS	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:49:02
50	58	WATSON	EDWARD	NFR	MALE O50	MALE O50	00:49:20
51	50	WALL	RICHARD	QUAKERS	MALE O50	MALE O50	00:49:35
52	11	SMEDLEY	STEVE	QUAKERS	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:49:36
53	54	NERGUARD	JOHN	NORTH SHIELDS	MALE O40	MALE O40	00:50:49
54	23	COLES	LEE	QUAKERS	MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:52:47
55	18	SAUL	JANE	NFR	LADY VET	LADY VET	00:52:59
56		WHITE	KENDRA	QUAKERS	LADY SENIOR	LADY SENIOR	00:53:00
57	56	MASWELL	CHRIS		MALE SENIOR	MALE SENIOR	00:53:18
58	24	HORAN	MIKE	QUAKERS	MALE O50	MALE O50	00:58:05
59							
60							