

Ian Hodgson Relays 2015



1 George and John finish leg 1 - photo: John

NFR was represented at the Ian Hodgson Mountain Relay again this year. Unlike the previous 2 years, conditions were benign with high cloud, little wind, and a cool day. George Nicholson and John Tollitt were our lead-off pair on the short leg to Hartsop via Angle Tarn. Soon they were handing over to Dexter and Scott Gibson for the longer leg over High Street. These two ran really strongly, hauling back a few places and arriving at Kirkstone ahead of our expected schedule.

Steph Scott and I took over the baton for leg 3. We managed a better route up Red Screes than last year avoiding Steph's bete-noire gully, though weren't quite so direct on our descent to Scandale Pass. After that, we found good lines around Dove Crag and on the descent to Dovedale.

Andrew Higgins and Mark Clarkson were our anchor-runners on the longest leg over Hart Crag and St Sunday Crag. They found the favoured traverse around Cofa Pike, and ran well to bring us home in 45th position overall.



2 Andrew and Mark finishing - photo: John

Borrowdale won once again, despite being behind at Kirkstone. They were pushed hard by Keswick, Calder Valley and Dark Peak. Ambleside Ladies were the first women's team in, and Dark Peak were first Vets.

The Hodgson was a great day as always. To quote Andrew Higgins: "It really is great to be part of a fantastic club that I can represent at team events like this". Many thanks to our team captain Dexter, our organiser Steph, and the Hodgson race organisation team.

Roll on the FRA Relays!

John Duff