

The Forest Burn Fell Race, Sunday 10th August 2014 – Report and results

The Forest Burn Fell Race featured in the North East Championship for the first time this year, being race number 5 in the 7 race series. This would be the second running of the new course imposed when the associated Simonside Show relocated to a new field on the southern side of the Forest Burn. It was difficult to pick out who might prevail in this short lung-burster which packs in quite a lot in its 2.6 miles. Added spice this year came in the form of Hurricane Bertha, clay pigeon shooters (again), waist high thistles, two herds of cattle, a quarry for one competitor, and some archers. The pace was quick from the start with some so eager they didn't have time to observe the well-placed and frequent course markers. A few shouts from further back were enough to keep everyone on track. A couple of southern raiders made their intentions clear from the outset with the younger looking very much in contention until the final descent, just a few hundred but tricky yards from the finish line, when they were misdirected by a well-intentioned competitor to the left of a marked ditch crossing. In just a few split seconds Horsley & Coe surged to cross the ditch first and cleared a way through the overgrown path into the show field. With one last turn and 100 yards to go Coe opened up his stride and breezed over the line with the chasing pack spilling over close behind. Thus the race order was turned around in those final moments. The last junior to win this race outright went by the name of Swinburn, who was a local lad & course record holder too. The Chairman's Cup will be gleaming just that little bit brighter today. Horsley was satisfied that this result secured him the championship. In the ladies race there were no particular surprises with the venerable but evergreen Karen Robertson comfortably clear and now holding the record for the original and new courses. Times were quick all round which was perhaps due to the harder ground and the tightness of the competition. Many thanks to race sponsor, Hangar-18 Off-Road Running & Stu Ferguson, and Rob & Tammy, my timekeepers. Casper had a break from course marking this year but Steph Scott was a keen substitute. Thanks to all, Will.

Pos	Name	Club	Gender	Age	Time	
1	Chris Coe	N'Land Schools	M	16	00:18:00	Junior, New Course Record (2013+ course)
2	Will Horsley	NFR	M	35	00:18:02	
3	Heath Bampton	Oxford City	M	47	00:18:04	1st MV40
4	Lee Bennett	Elswick Harriers	M	45	00:18:06	2nd MV40
5	John Baty	North Shields Poly	M	49	00:18:10	3rd MV40
6	Alex Bampton	Chetenham	M	19	00:18:19	
7	Joe Blackett	Dark Peak FR	M	50	00:19:01	1st MV50
8	George Nicholson	NFR	M	33	00:19:40	
9	John Tollitt	NFR	M	50	00:19:44	2nd MV50
10	Jeff Ross	NFR	M	50	00:19:49	3rd MV50
11	Ed English	None	M	24	00:19:50	
12	Karen Robertson	NFR	L	45	00:20:21	1st Lady & 1st LV40, New Course Record (2013+ course)
13	Brian Robson	None	M	47	00:20:53	
14	John Storey	None	M	35	00:21:14	
15	Bernard Kivlehan	NFR	M	54	00:21:35	
16	William Lawrence	NFR	M	55	00:21:40	
17	Neil Cassidy	Tyndedale Harriers	M	60	00:21:48	1st MV60
18	Glen McWilliams	NFR	M	52	00:21:50	

19	Michael Dean	Calder Valley FR	M	49	00:22:00	
20	Ines Davidson	Wells City, Somerset	M	15	00:22:11	2nd Junior
20	Steph Scott	NFR	L	44	00:22:11	2nd Lady & 2nd LV40
22	Rob Shepherd	None	M	35	00:22:16	
23	Nina Cameron	Heaton Harriers	L	44	00:23:06	3rd Lady & 3rd LV40
24	Andy Middleton	Elswick Harriers	M	39	00:23:48	
25	Peter Graham	Tyndedale Harriers	M	64	00:23:59	2nd MV60
26	Mark Latham	Bingley Harriers	M	54	00:24:09	
27	Denise Tunstall	DFR	L	50	00:24:27	1st LV50
28	Jill Bennett	Elswick Harriers	L	41	00:24:32	
29	Graham Fraser	Allen Valley Striders	M	65	00:24:33	3rd MV60
30	Julia Quinonez	Durham City	L	46	00:24:34	
31	Stevie Curry	Elswick Harriers	M	53	00:25:35	
32	Danny Routledge	Heaton Harriers	M	35	00:26:39	
33	Jan Young	Elvet Striders	L	61	00:27:04	1st LV60
34	Fiona McGarry	None	L	33	00:27:10	
35	Dagmar Winter	Tyndedale Harriers	L	51	00:29:00	
36	Nick Box	None	M	66	00:29:36	
37	Joe Garbarino	NFR	M	77	00:29:38	1st MV70
38	Hilary O'Shea	Trail Runners Assoc.	L	65	00:29:54	2nd LV60
39	Yvonne Huebner	Germany	L	33	00:32:28	
40	George Routledge	Heaton Harriers	M	67	00:45:15	