

2014 – 2015 SEASON RUN REPORTS

2. NAVIGATION INN, BUXWORTH (20/09/14) (By Joe Park)

Again we have been lucky with the weather, 16°C, no wind or rain and this time no snow and ice. The trail led out of the car park and over the A6 towards New Horwich. We did the headless chicken act at the first sign of long grass. After New Horwich we crossed the railway at Over Leigh and carried on to Tunstead Farm and then Bag House before turning north towards Combs. We re-crossed the railway and started round the reservoir. The run round the reservoir seemed longer than we remembered; could we be going round twice? Is that the same duck we saw a mile back? We crossed the road at Tunstead Milton but could find no old trail from the long gone Rose and Crown. The trail led on to Woodside Farm, oh good, we are going to Eccles Pike. No we are going away from the Pike but just a minute we are heading for the road to the Pike. Now we turn away from the Pike to Hilltop and back down to Buxworth. Mike Shipley had listened to the landlord and brought his bedspread and cardboard boxes. I never knew he was homeless. The landlord asked us to treat the bedroom as if it was our own. The Stockport lads said that is exactly what they had done. A drink of Timmy's was followed by a substantial meal. It was nice to see D Kay again and I hope his ankle is better. He injured it on the wicked camber back down to the finish. The turnout was low at 15 in spite of an excellent route by Ade and Geoff. 600 ft. of climbing over 9.2 miles

3. THE WANTED INN, SPARROWPIT (4/10/2014) (By Joe Park)

It was a pleasant day, 15°C, with little wind and no rain. The trail layers got off to a bad start when at the first farm they were told you can't go scattering stuff around the Peak District. The matter was quickly resolved with Stanton's and Burston's diplomatic skills. On now to Rushop Hall and Rushup Edge (note the different spelling) and the so-called path to Brown Knoll before turning west to South Head. The trail across Shake Holes was just that, everyone shaking and falling into peat holes. After a quick sprint to the summit of South Head the stony downhill to Shireoaks resulted in only one casualty. On to Malcoff and onto the road where a gentle climb took us up to Slackhall (and I mean up) Instead of turning to Bagshaw some people were enjoying the road so much they continued up the hill to Stonyford before running out of saw dust to follow and turning back. A few grassy fields over to Goldpiece Farm led to the road and the finish we Wanted. 18 sat down for a drink and a much needed meal. The only complaints were about the orange juice.

4. JUG AND GLASS (19/10/2014) (By John Jocys)

<http://adventures-with-jj.blogspot.co.uk/2014/11/18th-october-tally-ho-from-jug-and-glass.html>

6. LORD RAGLAN, NANGREAVES (15/11/14) (By Joe Park)

A clear bright day, 8°C, little wind. I quote from a local run from Holcombe Brook in 1891. The run went up to Peel Tower and over Bull Hill to Irwell Vale and then down the valley back to Holcombe Hill. A whip from the Holcombe Hunt made himself rather obnoxious by passing the pack and arriving back at the pub bragging that he had taken the club down. On being questioned he admitted that he had missed the last three tough miles and was made to look rather small. He was further

embarrassed when he went out to run back with the pack and was easily beaten by all the front runners. No one challenged us today. Jocys and Blackshaw laid a very well-marked trail which in spite of having to be reccy'd three times turned out to be a complete (shambles) success. When it was mentioned that only an idiot could have missed trail all agreed. We set out on a track through a maze of hummocks until we were stopped by a fast flowing stream. We searched for a safe place to cross. We all made the other side but some fell back into the stream. We carried on to Croston Close and to Ashworth Road. We crossed Edenfield Road, with Owd Betts on our left, and carried on through the windmills to Knowl Hill (419 metres). We had a great view over the Naden reservoirs before turning west towards Red Lumb and back across Edenfield Road then down towards Top o' th' Hill Farm. What was all this talk about mud, oh no, the lane ahead was a foot deep in mud and went on and on. The trail led around the Deeply Vale reservoirs and on to Croston Close Road then left into Buckhurst Road and over the fields to the pub. A quick duck in very warm water in the Leyden Brewery was followed by Fall Down ale. 17 sat down to hot pot and apple crumble Total distance 9.5 miles.

7. THE CRAG, WILDBOARCLOUGH (29/11/14) (By Joe Park)

A pleasant day, no wind or rain, 11°C and a little mist. Ian Brown and Dave Riley had laid a trail starting up Berry Bank with surprisingly no mud in the hated lane. The trail led on across the A54 and round the shoulder of Tagsclough Hill and down to Gradbach where a number of Tonka Toys were playing. Turning East we crossed the road and up Shiredale to pass Tom Cropper's Memorial Post and on up to Turn Edge. We headed on to Panniers Pool at Three Shires Head where we were led up to Blackclough and the Reeve-edge and Danebower quarries. Crossing the A54 to Danebower Hollow we carried on before turning South down Cumberland Brook to Cumberland Cottage. Passing Clough House we carried on down the stony track by the side of the wood to the road leading down to the pub. Ian and Janet managed to conjure up a wonderful meal of roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, mash, cabbage, carrots and cauliflower followed by apple slice (blueberry for the top table) in spite of 21 turning up against a notified 12. Beer was supplied by Winkle and Merlin (Arclid) breweries. The tin bath was supplied by David Bell, the cardboard by the Hon. Sec. and the mopping up was by Ade, Total distance for those following trail was 8.6 miles.

11. ROBIN HOOD, RAINOW (31/01/15) (By Joe Park)

SNOW IN RAIN-OW (235 m) Temp 2-3 °C, no wind at low level but gales on tops. We headed West down the lane from the pub and over the fields to Savio House (familiar to those in the Boxing Day group). The trail carried on to Walkersgreen and Andrew's Knob to cross Bakestonedale Road and onto the moors. Here the snow was deep and crisp and uneven. We suddenly turned East (too suddenly for some) towards Sponds Hill. Here we saw two runners coming towards us at high speed. When they got closer we saw they had thin strips of wood attached to their shoes, wish we had thought of that. Just before Sponds Hill (410m) we joined the Gritstone Trail and headed South towards Further Harrop Farm. The club ran from the nearby Harrop House Farm in 1936, 37 and 38 until the Milk Marketing Board imposed new regulations. We then turned West to Harrop Wood then down to Billinge Head Farm and Rainowlow. At Clarke House a short clockwise loop brought us back to the pub. Nine miles for those mostly on trail. 20 dined on rack of lamb and tiramisu (Italian for pick me up) or apple crumble. Rob McHarry did an excellent job on his own in difficult conditions. Next time he will have help.

12. CROSS KEYS, UPPERMILL (14/02/15) (By Joe Park)

A cold crisp day, 2-3 °C. The staff held their Christmas Party the evening before and despite finishing at 3am all arrived for duty. First things first could we have the barn unlocked and the stove lit. This was done straightaway. Mark Taylor and Paul Wells laid an excellent trail covering a lot of new ground starting opposite the pub (270m) taking us down to Greenfield and picking up the Oldham Way over to Quick where they crossed the railway, Mossley Road and Quick Road. The trail led on West to drop down to Lanes Road (someone had thoughtfully laid carpets for us) and then up Holly Bank towards Hartland Pike Tower. At the Trig Point we turned north and then down the lane to Grotton. Here we headed east to Lydgate Church, then Grasscroft , past the Wharmton Mast (348m) and down the steep slope at Saddleworth Golf Club. Back across the railway to High Street and left up Church Road to Heathfields where they took the lane behind the cemetery to join the outward trail back to the pub. 15 had a meal of meat and potato pie and mushy peas followed by cold apple crumble and custard. Total mileage covered measured at 9.75 miles.

14. LANTERN PIKE, LITTLE HAYFIELD. (21/03/15) (By Joe Park)

A bright sunny day 8°C with little wind. Mike Burston and Mike Eastwood led the trail across the road from the pub up past Park Hall and onto the stony track running parallel to Glossop Road towards the Grouse. Crossing Glossop Road the trail led up Monks Road to Near Plainsteads before turning right down through the pigeons to continue parallel to Glossop Road. A sharp left and then into and out of Long Clough took us onto Plainsteads Farm and Monks Road where after a short distance we headed out towards Whiteley Nab. Before reaching the Nab a sharp left led us back across Monks Road and the steep climb up to Cown Edge. There followed a delightful stretch along the edge with panoramic views across the Peak. We then dropped down to the Harthill Farms and on to Bullshaw Farm. The trail led on down to the Mill and over the footbridge to the Lantern Pike. The total distance was 8.22 miles. The Landlord was in excellent form and 14 enjoyed a meal of steak and kidney pie followed by apple crumble and custard (if a little expensive). 16 attended, a little low considering the venue and the weather.