

## Pennine News Email 21st April 2026

Hello all,

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### Weekend Report

After a quiet couple of weeks, there was lots of activity this weekend. Saturday saw the third **English Champs** race of the season at **Blackstone Edge**, described by **Toby Savage** as “*a short, sharp shock of a race with a little bit of everything – runnable track, tussocky bog and sandy Kinder-like rocks*”, although **Chris Jones** insists that “*any tales of the bogs are over-exaggerated*”. I've seen the photos and I'm not so sure!

There were age-category podium finishes for **Steph Curtis** (2<sup>nd</sup> FV55) and **Simon Entwisle** (3<sup>rd</sup> MV70). **Joe Mercer** also had a great run to finish 13<sup>th</sup> overall, with **Chris Jones** in 37<sup>th</sup> and **Sam Soles** 53<sup>rd</sup>. The men's open team finished in a very impressive 5<sup>th</sup> place, with the final team counters being **James Stubbs** and **Stevie Knowles**.

In fact, Pennine managed to get teams out in all age categories, which is an awesome achievement. It was great to see **Helen Hamilton** and **Janine Higson** combining with **Steph** to finish in 5<sup>th</sup> place in the FV50s. **Steph** was also the third counter in the FV40 team, helping them to a 6<sup>th</sup> place finish, along with **Anna Wildman** and **Holly Martin**. As Helen says, all the women “*did their bit to make the route even more challenging for the men*”.

Meanwhile, up in the Lake District, it was the **Teenager with Altitude**, where **Richard Bolton** was 3<sup>rd</sup> MV50. **Richard Tunnicliffe** confirms that “*the conditions were good, a bit wind to stop you from overheating on the climbs, and clag to keep you focused, hard work but really enjoyed this one!*” He didn't mention that he finished 24<sup>th</sup> – well done Richard.

Staying in the Lakes, it was the **Lakes Mountain 40** at the weekend (yes, that's 40 miles). **Paul Swindles** was 6<sup>th</sup> and **Caroline Leigh** 7<sup>th</sup> (and 2<sup>nd</sup> woman).

Even further afield, **Barney Nikolich** was 3<sup>rd</sup> at the **Ben Chonzie Hill Race** in Scotland and **Joe Thorp** was 4<sup>th</sup> at **Ras Yr Meinir** in North Wales.

Last Wednesday was the first local evening race of the season at **Herod Farm**, where there were some more great Pennine performances: **Sam Soles** was 2<sup>nd</sup>, **Jack Harris** 3<sup>rd</sup>, and **Georgia Roberts** was 5<sup>th</sup> woman.

### **Runner v Bike: from the Royal Car Park on Thursday**

Hopefully you all got the details I sent out last weekend: the first runner v bike will be this Thursday from the Royal Car Park. Basically it's a handicap race, with self selected starts for the "ultra recreational" through to "ultra competitive" runners and bikers. We're using the Moorlands Road route this time. First starts at 6:45pm. Post run socialising at the Sporty as usual.

### **Mount Famine Race: Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

The National Trust have now given permission for the Mount Famine race to go ahead, albeit with a slight change to the route. Thanks to Laura for her perseverance getting this sorted. Due to the delays with the NT, the race will be entry on the day only.

JoBo and Laura are planning a **Pennine social** at the Scout Hut after the race, involving pizza, cake and beer (soft drinks also available). More details to follow but put the date in your diary now.

### **Helpers Needed**

All fell races rely on large numbers of people helping out on the day and there are always things you can do even if you're running the race. Some of our local Race Organisers are looking for marshals, please get in touch with them directly if you can help.

**Will Meredith needs help with the Kinder Downfall on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April.** He is looking for people who are running to help out with registration and car parking, as well as for a few more hill marshals.

**Neil Birks is looking for helpers for the May Queen on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May.**

**Laura Iredale needs marshals for Mount Famine on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May.** This is a Pennine Club Champs race but if you can help please contact Laura.

**Tim Ruck is looking for marshals and other helpers for the Kinder Trog on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June.** This is the same day as the English Champs race at Blencathra so if you're planning to do that you won't be able to help Tim but you could always volunteer at one of the other Hayfield races instead.

### **Dates for the Diary**

- Runner v Bike: this Thursday: meet at the Royal Car Park
- Eskdale Elevation Club Champs (entry on day) & away weekend at this [campsite](#) - Saturday 25th/Sunday 26th April

- Cake Race Club Champs - Saturday 2nd May - [entries open](#)
- Mount Famine Club Champs (entry on the day) & Social – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May
- Bamford Sheepdog Trials Club Champs – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May – [entries open](#)

You can always keep up to date with what's happening in the [Pennine calendar](#). Upcoming races can be found on the [Fellrunner website](#).

### **Thursday Night Club Run from the Sportsman Inn, Hayfield 7:00pm – but not this week as it's Runner v Bike from the Royal Car Park!**

Depending on who is there we'll be splitting into 3 or 4 groups of varying speeds. You should be aware that this is an informal session, without qualified run leaders.

**Kit:** Full FRA kit and additional items such as a fully charged head-torch, a mobile phone (working and switched on), spare layer, first aid kit, bivvy bag, emergency shelter are recommended.

*Keep up to date with all the rest from the [Pennine website](#) (in particular, check out the [Facebook](#) page) - and the [Hayfield website](#).*

**Pennine's Participation Statement** As a club, Pennine Fell Runners recognises that fell running is an activity with a danger of personal injury or death. All adult participants in club activities must be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions.

### **Defibrillator Locations in Hayfield**

Cardiac arrests when fell running are rare but they can happen. There are five defibrillators in Hayfield / Little Hayfield, which can be found at the following locations:

- On Kinder Road, just past the Sportsman
- By the Parish Council office (on Market Street, just up from the Royal)
- At the George
- On the far side of the football fields
- On the wall of the Lantern Pike pub (Little Hayfield)

Safety information and guidelines [here](#).

Happy running,  
Sue Richmond  
Club Captain