

## Yomp Mountain Challenge June 4<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Report

As Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017 dawned, the weather looked promising for this year's Upper Eden Yomp Mountain Challenge, fortunately, it was not as hot as in 2016 and not as cold, wet and windy as in some other years. In fact, for the fell athletes, it was ideal conditions. Carl Bell was back this year and broke his own course record for the Full 23 mile Yomp, finishing in a time of 2:36:20, improving on his previous time of 2:43:00. Heidi Dent came very close to beating the existing ladies record for the full Yomp, just missing out by 3 minutes.

136 competitors completed the Full Course. As mentioned above, Carl Bell of Keswick AC was first home in 2:36:20. (Wild Boar Cup) . The Swarth Fell Trophy for fastest local runner went to Patrick Hannah (2nd) of Howgill Harriers in 3:10:56. Fastest woman was Heidi Dent, 3:26:49, (Mallerstang Cup) and Heidi also won the Nateby Trophy for the fastest local female. The winner of the Nine Standards Veterans over 60 cup, was Mike McKenna in 3:36:40. The K Shoes Shield for fastest team went to Howgill Harriers, their team of 3 recording a combined time of 10:16:56 (Patrick Hannah, Heidi Dent and Brian Pennington). Second place went to Eden Runners.

Runners in the half-yomp (11.5 miles) were somewhat down this year at 94, however, all 94 completed the course. Fastest time went to Paul Nield, Bowland Fell Runners, in 1:30:58 (Faraday Shield). Nine Standards Trophy for fastest female: Jean Mattinson in 1:34:57. The Fletcher Hill Trophy for fastest over-60 veteran went Shaun Roberts of Elvet Striders in 2:14:35. The Under 16 awards went to Barney Pannone of Eden Runners in 2:09:04 for The Tailbridge Trophy and Eleanor Bowness – the Dalefoot Trophy – in 3:10:24. The Kirkby Stephen Trophy for fastest team went to The Howgill Harriers trio of David Bainbridge, Barrie Cracknell and Isaac Robinson in a combined time of 5:48:22.

Winner of the Short 6.5 mile Yomp was Jack Walton in 00:44:11. Close behind were the fastest boys in the under 12 and under 16 classes respectively: Oliver Dixon, 52:30, and Alistair Barr in 00:53:50. As under 16's have to be accompanied by an adult it should be recorded that Alan Barr accompanied his son Alistair. He then returned to the start, and completed the Short Course for a second time with his younger son, Liam, in just over an hour and twenty five minutes!! Fastest female was CJ Middleton in 00:56:57 who was also the fastest female under sixteen. First under-12 girl was Mai Metcalfe in 1:08:45. Team prize for the Short Yomp went to Kirkby Stephen Primary School , their first three runners, Oliver Dixon, Benn Allison and Zak Allison recording a combined time of 2:51. The greatest number of school pupils (26) who finished came from Kirkby Stephen Primary School, with many of the pupils from the School running to raise funds, through individual sponsorship, for the new classroom at the school. Second place was Warcop with 9 pupils. Full results for the Yomp can be found at <http://www.sportident.co.uk/results.php>

The Yomp is organised by the Upper Eden Rotary club and the main charity supported this year is "Blood Bikes Cumbria", along with other nominated charities. Our thanks go to our main sponsor, Kirkby Stephen builder's merchant JT Atkinson and their local manager Alan Barr. In addition, there is great assistance from many local organisations and individuals; Kirkby Stephen Mountain Rescue Team, who keep a very watchful eye over the Yomp and provide a communications room and a first-aid post. Cumbria Classic Coaches, who drive the Short Course competitors up the steep hill to Tailbridge in their vintage double-decker buses. The Scouts and Guides, as runners and general assistants. The Kirkby Stephen Grammar School facilities plus the help given by the ever-helpful Site Manager; Marwood Dent. Thank you to all competitors and helpers, who again made the Yomp the Grand day out it is.