

Allendale fair ALLENDALE 8 ROAD RACE REPORT

2 June 2012

The day started with mist, a fresh breeze and light drizzle which would later prove to be advantageous to the runners. Before the main race there was an opportunity for children to participate in a free fun run over 1 mile. This proved very popular and they were rewarded with a medal and sweets for their efforts.

With the buzz of the Allendale fair, the main race saw the competitors eagerly await the start with some apprehension for which is a scenic and testing course over a non standard distance of 7.7miles on country roads of the North Pennines, an area of outstanding natural beauty.

The runners started with true determination and resulted in some fast times as the first 3 men broke the long standing course record. The winner, James Buis (42:46) from Heaton Harriers, lead from the start and by 3 miles had a lead of over 200 metres. James eventually finished by taking a huge 2min26sec off the long standing course record and a gap of 1min45sec ahead of the second place finisher.

Joanne Lee (51:39) from local club Tynedale Harriers had a fantastic run was able to finish just under 4 minutes ahead of the second placed lady, Rebecca Bardsley of Dumfries Harriers.

For the veteran race it was a victory for unattached runner Dominic Munnelly for the men and strong finishing Kim Bluck of Tynedale Harriers for the ladies.

In the team competition, it was Tynedale Harriers who took both the men's and lady's title with good runs from each team member, which had Phil Vincent, Hugh Bingham, Ivan Newton and Martin Bluck for the men. The ladies included Joanne Lee, Kim Bluck and Rachel Chinnery.

The event was concluded with the standard prize presentation, with the addition of more than 35 lucky dip prizes ranging from gift sets to sports massage vouchers.