

Smugglers' Trod
29 August 2009
Report by Kay Farrow of Beverley Athletic Club



Members of Beverley Athletic Club enjoyed an energetic bank holiday weekend taking part in the Smugglers' Trod challenge event on the North Yorkshire Moors.

Organised by the Yorkshire Coast branch of the Long Distance Walkers Association, Smugglers' Trod is a popular event which attracts several hundred people each year. Competitors navigate their way over challenging terrain, allegedly used by smugglers in centuries past, and can choose either a 16 or 26 mile route.

The first Beverley man to finish was Tim Simpson in 4 hours 21 and in tenth position overall. He was followed by Steve Jackson, Ross Armstrong and Tony Beck who were all competing in this event for the first time. They were accompanied for most of the route by veteran "Smuggler" Brian Richardson who finished the 26 mile route just ahead of them.

Jacqui Dickinson chose the 16 mile route and completed the course in less than 5 hours despite suffering from very painful blisters. "Despite everything I really enjoyed it and I'm looking forward to next year!" said a delighted Jacqui afterwards.

Colin Sleight brought his fiancée Carol Styles along and they walked the 16 mile route together. This was Carol's first event and she thoroughly enjoyed it.

Members of Beverley AC have been participating in Smugglers' Trod for over 10 years. The course provides an excellent alternative to road running and competitors can choose to run or walk. The route starts and finishes in Robin Hoods Bay

following footpaths across the moors with spectacular rural scenery and wonderful views of the coast. The steep hill from the harbour to the finish at the village hall is a challenge at the best of times but after 16 or 26 miles it demands stamina and determination.

Beverley AC times:

26 miles

Tim Simpson 4.21 10th; Mark Dalton 4.44; Steve Jackson 4.44; Brian Richardson 5.11; Ross Armstrong 5.13; Tony Beck 5.14; Carol Rimmington 6.31; Martin Sellers 6.31; David Williams 6.35; Pete McNally 6.53; Ivor Roberts 6.54.

16 miles

Anne Nequest 4.50; Jacqui Dickinson 4.52; Kay Farrow 4.52; Sarah Tock 5.07; Margaret Richardson 5.25; Mark Oglesby 5.49; Julie Sellers 5.49; Frank Harrison 5.57; Colin Sleight 6.02; Carol Styles 6.02

Photo

Members of Beverley AC in Whitby after the Smugglers' Trod challenge event